PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS;

CONSISTING OF A

COMPLETE COLLECTION

OF

KINGS SPEECHES,

MESSAGES to PARLIAMENT, ADDRESSES and REPRESENTATIONS of BOTH HOUSES to the THRONE, SPEECHES of the LORDS CHANCELLORS, KEEPERS, &c. and of the SPEAKERS of the HOUSE of COMMONS,

from the Restoration in 1660 to the Dissolution of the last Parliament in May, 1796.

A

COMPLETE AND CORRECT COLLECTION

OF THE

LORDS PROTESTS,

From the EARLIEST on RECORD in 1242 to 1796.

AN ACCURATE COPY OF THE

STANDING ORDERS OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS,

Extracted from, and compared with, the Journals of the said House.

A COLLECTION OF

RULES AND STANDING ORDERS

OF THE

HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Relative to the applying for, and passing Bills for Inclosing and Draining of Land, making Roads, Cuts, [illegible] Paving, and Lighting Towns, [illegible] &c.

AN ACCURATE LIST OF THE

SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

From the earliest Records to the present Time.

[illegible] Records and Journals of Parliament.

IN TWO OCTAVO VOLUMES.

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1797.

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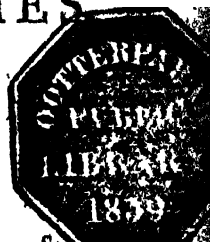
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KINGS' SPEECHES

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His Majesty GEORGE *the* SECOND's *most gracious* ...
January 14, 1746.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AT the opening of this session of Parliament, I did not think it proper to lay any thing before you for your consideration, but what immediately related to the present unnatural rebellion, and our security at home. The daring attempts which the rebels have since made upon this part of my kingdom has been happily disappointed: and as their precipitate flight before a small number of my troops must greatly dispirit their followers, so that inviolable duty and loyalty which have been so universally and steadily shewn by my faithful subjects, and shall never be forgotten by me, must convince them how vain and ill grounded their hopes were of any addition of strength from such an enterprise. I have not only sent a considerable body of our national forces into Scotland, and ordered the Hessian troops in my pay to be landed there; but have also made such a disposition of the rest of my forces, by land as well as by sea, that I hope, by the blessing of God, this rebellion will in a short time be extinguished, and our enemies, who have so long menaced us with an invasion, be deterred by the seasonable preparations made for our defence.

The election of the Emperor, which I very zealously promoted, was an event of great importance, not only to the support of the house of Austria, but to the liberties of Europe in general. I did also, during the course of the last year, exert my earnest endeavours to bring about an accommodation between the Empress, the King of Poland, and the King of Prussia; and laid a proper foundation for it by the convention made between me and the King of Prussia. This great work being at length perfected under my mediation, by the treaty

* A duplicate of this speech having by mistake been inserted, Vol I. p. 705, the reader is requested to refer to p 707 of that volume, for the Address of the House of Lords, and his Majesty's answer to it.

lately concluded at Drefden, the interior tranquillity of Germany, amongft the princes of the Empire, is now reftored. My next care has been, and fhall continue to be applied to improve this accommodation to the beft advantage, by procuring an immediate fuccour to be fent to Italy; and fuch a ftrength, for the defence and fecurity of the United Provinces, as may preferve that republic, the ancient and natural ally of this kingdom, and one main fupport of the proteftant caufe, from the deftruction with which it is threatened, as well as to attain a fafe and honourable peace. The States General have made the moft preffing inftances to me to affift them in this difficult conjuncture. The imminent dangers to which they are at prefent expofed, which do fo nearly affect the fafety of Great Britain, as well as the very being of Holland, call for our moft ferious attention; for the interefts of the two nations are fo united, that whatfoever brings ruin upon the one, muft, in confequence, be attended with the moft fatal mifchiefs to the other. Thefe reafons have induced me to affure the States that I will, to the utmoft of my power, according to the circumftances of my own dominions, co-operate with them towards oppofing the further progrefs of our enemies in the Netherlands, and procuring a proper fecurity for the republic againft the ambitious and deftructive defigns of France. In order to this neceffary end, meafures are now actually concerting between me and the States, for furnifhing this affiftance on my part, as early and effectually as poffible; and for their making fuch an augmentation of their prefent forces, as their own immediate prefervation, and the neceffity of affairs abfolutely require.

The great advantages which we have received from our naval ftrength, in protecting the commerce of my fubjects, and intercepting and diftreffing that of our enemies, have been happily experienced by the former, and feverely felt by the latter. I am therefore determined to be particularly attentive to this important fervice; and to have fuch a fleet at fea early in the fpring, as may be fufficient to defend ourfelves, and effectually to annoy our enemies.

Gentlemen of the Houfe of Commons,

It is with much regret that I find myfelf obliged to afk any further aids of my people: I am fo fenfible of the burthens they endure, that nothing could give me fo fincere a pleafure as to lighten them; but the confiderations I have laid before you are fo neceffary to our own prefervation, that I doubt not you will grant me fuch a fupply as fhall be fufficient for thefe purpofes. The proper eftimates fhall foon be laid before you, and I earneftly recommend it to you to take the moft ef-

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fectual methods to maintain the public credit in this conjuncture.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have fully opened to you my views and intentions, which are so essential to the honour of my crown, and the true interest and well-being of my kingdoms, that I depend on your vigorous support, and the utmost unanimity and dispatch in your proceedings.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Jan. 15, 1746.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our sincere thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

It is with the truest satisfaction that we congratulate your Majesty on the success of your arms, under the command of his royal highness the Duke, in driving the rebels out of one part of the united kingdom; not doubting but by the zeal and loyalty of your faithful subjects, and the further progress of your troops, this unnatural rebellion will happily and speedily be extinguished throughout the whole kingdom. And we assure your Majesty that we will persevere in supporting your Majesty in all such measures as shall be thought necessary for so desirable an end. And though we trust in your Majesty's wisdom, that the measures you have already pursued will deter any foreign power from undertaking so rash an enterprise as the invasion of this island, yet we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that whatever further strength shall be found necessary, you may depend on your faithful Commons for their cheerful and ready assistance to make good the same.

Permit us to congratulate your Majesty on the success of your endeavours in the choice of an Emperor, and thereby procuring an additional strength to the house of Austria, and a further security to the liberties of Europe in general.

We take this occasion to express our highest satisfaction on the peace concluded between the Empress, the King of Poland, and the King of Prussia; whereby the interior tranquillity of the Princes of the Empire is restored, and the Empress enabled more effectually to support herself and her allies in Italy, particularly the King of Sardinia, to whose assistance we will contribute on our part, whatever shall be found necessary and expedient.

And your Majesty may depend on your faithful Commons, that as they are fully sensible that the true interest of the States General and that of these kingdoms is the same, they will enable your Majesty, as far as our circumstances will permit, to give that succour to the United Provinces, which, with a proper and vigorous exertion of their own strength, may put a stop to the further progress of the arms of France in the Netherlands, procure them a sufficient security against their enemies, and obtain a safe and honourable peace.

We beg leave to return your Majesty our thanks for the particular care which your Majesty has taken, and graciously promised to continue, of the naval strength of these kingdoms; from whence we have already received, and from which, under your Majesty, we may justly hope for the most important services.

And we assure your Majesty that we will, in all our deliberations, have the greatest regard to public credit; the support of which is at this time so essentially necessary towards carrying into execution every measure that can conduce to the honour of your Majesty, and the true interest and well-being of your people.

His Majesty's Answer, January 17, 1746.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this dutiful and affectionate address.

The zeal you express, and the assurances you give, of vigorously supporting me in suppressing the rebellion, and in assisting my allies, are very agreeable to me. You may be assured that in all the measures I shall pursue for attaining these ends, I shall have a constant regard to the abilities of my people, as well as to the true interest and security of my kingdoms.

Address by the House of Lords, April 29, 1746.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave, with hearts full of the most unfeigned joy, to congratulate your Majesty on the happy success with which it has pleased Almighty God to bless your arms against the rebels.

When we consider the value and extent of that happiness which this execrable rebellion was formed to take from us, our

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holy religion, our laws and liberties, and the great ſupport of them all, your Majeſty's mild and gracious government, and the proteſtant ſucceſſion in your royal houſe; when on the other hand we conſider the inſupportable miſeries deſigned by the wicked authors of this deteſtable ſcheme to be brought upon this nation, our thankfulneſs to Heaven, and the tranſports we feel in our breaſts on this occaſion, are raiſed beyond the power of words to expreſs.

The juſt and wiſe uſe which your Majeſty has made of thoſe neceſſary meaſures which were taken to ſtrengthen your hands in this conjuncture, for the defence of your Majeſty's crown and the protection of your people, demands all the returns of gratitude, zeal, and affection which the moſt faithful ſubjects can pay to the beſt of Kings; and the unprovoked treaſon and perfidy with which this rebellion has been begun and obſtinately carried on, as well as the many calamities this nation has ſuffered from it, call for exemplary juſtice againſt thoſe diſturbers of our peace.

It is with the greateſt pleaſure and admiration we behold in how eminent a manner this ſignal victory has been owing to the valour and conduct of his royal highneſs the Duke. If any thing can add to our joy on ſuch an event, it is to ſee a Prince of your Majeſty's blood, formed by your example and imitating your virtues, the glorious inſtrument of it. And happy ſhould we be in any opportunity of teſtifying the high ſenſe we have of ſuch illuſtrious merit.

The bravery, fidelity, and firmneſs by which the officers and ſoldiers of your Majeſty's army have diſtinguiſhed themſelves on this occaſion, give us the utmoſt ſatisfaction, and will, we doubt not, convince your enemies how much they have to fear from troops led on by ſuch a commander.

May the divine Providence continue to preſerve your Majeſty's precious life, and to proſper your councils and arms with ſucceſs; and permit us in the moſt ſolemn manner to renew the ſtrongeſt aſſurances to your Majeſty of our moſt zealous and vigorous ſupport and aſſiſtance entirely to extinguiſh this rebellion, abſolutely to cruſh this laſt deſperate effort of a popiſh abjured Pretender, and to improve the conſequences of it to add ſtability to your throne.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, April 29, 1746.

My Lords,

THE ſucceſs of my arms againſt the rebels is the more agreeable to me, as it gives ſuch univerſal ſatiſfaction to all my loving ſubjects. Your joy on this occaſion is a freſh

mark of your zeal and affection for me and my family ; and the approbation you express of the services of my son the Duke, gives me great pleasure. You may depend on my utmost care to improve this success, to re-establish the tranquillity and security of my kingdoms.

Address by the House of Commons, April 29, 1746.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to congratulate your Majesty on the great and important success with which it has pleased Almighty God to bless your Majesty's arms, under the command of his royal highness the Duke, against the rebels.

It is with hearts full of duty and gratitude we acknowledge your Majesty's wisdom and paternal attention to the interest and welfare of your people, so strongly expressed by your Majesty, in the choice of that general, whose birth and tried abilities marked him out to defend the liberties and constitution of Great Britain, and so sensibly felt by your people in the happy consequences of that choice.

And as we think the defeat given to the rebels an event which must immediately produce the most desirable effects upon the whole state of our affairs at home and abroad ; so we doubt not but in its remoter consequences, it will tend to the future peace and tranquillity of your Majesty's reign, to the firm establishment of your Majesty and your royal posterity upon the throne of these kingdoms, and to the effectual security of the religion, laws, and liberties of Great Britain.

Thus by a fate not uncommon to the devices of rebels and traitors, those wicked attempts which have been levelled against the protestant succession, and the happy constitution of this country, will, under the blessings of Providence, prove in the result, the most effectual means of confirming both.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons, truly sensible of the great benefits this nation has received from the eminent courage and conduct of his royal highness the Duke upon this occasion, are desirous and will be ready to give his royal highness such distinguishing marks of public gratitude as shall be most agreeable to your Majesty, and are justly due to his superior merit.

His Majesty's Answer, April 30, 1746.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this address, so full of affection to me and my family: the satisfaction I feel at the success of my arms against the rebels is greatly increased by your kind expressions towards my son the Duke, and your approbation of his services on this occasion. I will not fail to improve this advantage to the utmost of my power, towards establishing upon a lasting foundation the future security and happiness of my people.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, May 13, 1746.

GEORGE REX.

THE desire which his Majesty's faithful Commons have expressed to shew some public mark of their approbation of the services performed by his dearly-beloved son the Duke of Cumberland, towards suppressing the rebellion and preserving our happy constitution in church and state, has given his Majesty the greatest satisfaction: his Majesty is therefore persuaded that upon this occasion he complies with the inclination of this House, in recommending to their consideration the settling an additional revenue upon his said son and his issue male, with such provisions as shall be judged proper.

The humble Address of the Archbishop, the Bishops, and the Clergy of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation assembled; presented to his Majesty on Wednesday, the 21st day of May, 1746.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy of the province of Canterbury, in convocation assembled, unanimously beg leave to profess, in your sacred presence, our most unfeigned and devout thankfulness to Almighty God, for the complete and important victory vouchsafed to your Majesty's forces over your rebellious subjects, supported by the avowed and implacable enemies of your royal dignity, and these your kingdoms.

It is evident to all the world, that on the stability of your Majesty's throne, and on the succession of the crown in your august family, depend, under divine Providence, the security of our holy religion and of all our civil rights, and even our

being as a proteſtant and free people. Never, therefore, was there any joy more tranſporting and univerſal than every where appeared among all orders and degrees of men, on the happy defeat of the late wicked and traitorous attempts.

Your faithful clergy, always the devoted objects of popiſh malice and cruelty, humbly deſire to preſent from grateful hearts their dutiful acknowledgments to your moſt gracious Majeſty, their chief human defence, as for your conſtant protection and favour, ſo for your wiſe and ſeaſonable care of the public ſafety, in committing the conduct of your armies to that illuſtrious Prince, who, through the bleſſing of Heaven on his heroic virtues, early copied from your royal example, hath been the glorious inſtrument of this great and ever-memorable deliverance.

May the watchful Providence of God ſtill continue to guard and preſerve your ſacred life: may it pleaſe him to bleſs your arms and counſels with freſh and conſtant ſucceſſes againſt all your domeſtic and foreign enemies; and after a long and happy reign over an obedient and grateful people, may you be rewarded with an immortal crown of glory.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, May 21, 1746.

My Lords, and the reſt of the Clergy,

I THANK you for this affectionate addreſs, and your congratulations on the ſucceſs of my arms under the command of my ſon the Duke, againſt the rebels. The zeal which you ſo early and ſo remarkably ſhewed throughout the kingdom againſt theſe attempts of our enemies, did not fail to have the beſt effect; of which I have a juſt ſenſe. You may depend upon my firm reſolution to ſupport and protect the church of England as by law eſtabliſhed.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, Auguſt 12, 1746.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT put an end to this ſeſſion of Parliament without expreſſing to you my entire ſatiſfaction in your proceedings. The zeal and vigour which you have ſo unanimouſly ſhewn for the ſupport of my government; for ſuppreſſing the late rebellion; and for bringing the guilty to juſtice, in which you have been ſo univerſally ſeconded by my good ſubjects; have not only fully anſwered my expectations, but give me the beſt aſſurance that you are determined to perfect this good work, by

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ſettling our tranquillity at home upon ſolid foundations; and extinguiſhing the hopes of the Pretender and all his adherents.

The powers which you thought fit to repoſe in me on this occaſion have been employed in the moſt proper and effectual manner, and made ſtrictly ſubſervient to thoſe purpoſes only for which you intended them: and it has pleaſed the divine Providence, in a moſt ſignal manner, to bleſs the meaſures we have taken with ſucceſs. I am very ſenſible, there are matters of great moment ſtill behind, which are neceſſary for our laſting ſecurity, and preventing the like calamities for the future; but as a foundation is prudently laid for your proceeding upon them in the next ſeſſion, I was unwilling to detain you longer out of your reſpective countries, at this advanced ſeaſon of the year.

I have the ſatisfaction to acquaint you, that the poſture of affairs abroad appears more favourable than when I laſt ſpoke to you. As ſoon as the ſafety of my own kingdoms would permit, I ſent ſuch a body of troops as could be ſpared from hence, to ſtrengthen the allied army in the Netherlands, for the defence of the United Provinces, and oppoſing the further progreſs of France on that ſide. By means of this ſuccour, and the other powerful aſſiſtances which you have enabled me to furniſh, that army has been very conſiderably augmented, and is become much ſtronger than was expected at the beginning of the year. This event, together with the happy ſucceſſes of the Auſtrian and Sardinian armies in Italy, and ſome other incidents, which have happened to the advantage of the common cauſe, give us a better proſpect of bringing our enemies to reaſon, and procuring a ſafe and honourable peace, which is my great end and aim.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

That great readineſs and cheerfulneſs with which you have granted me the ſupplies for the current year, require my particular thanks. I am very ſenſible of the extraordinary difficulties which the circumſtances of the times brought upon this important ſervice, and upon the public credit in general, and which nothing but your prudence and firmneſs could have overcome. What you have given ſhall be ſtrictly applied to the purpoſes you intended: and you cannot but have obſerved my deſire to leſſen the public expenſe, as far as poſſible, by taking the firſt opportunity to diſband thoſe regiments, which the laudable and active zeal of ſeveral of my faithful ſubjects of the firſt rank and diſtinction had added to our ſtrength on this occaſion.

My

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have had ſuch ample experience of your unſhaken fidelity, and of your affection and attachment to me and my family, that I rely with the utmoſt confidence on your future conduct. I cannot doubt that during this receſs you will, in your ſeveral ſtations, uſe your utmoſt endeavours to reſtore and preſerve the peace of the kingdom; to heal the wounds which this unnatural rebellion may have made; and to encourage and cultivate in my ſubjects that ſpirit of loyalty, and of zeal for the preſent eſtabliſhment, which has ſo remarkably appeared: the impreſſions of it ſhall ever remain upon my mind, and be demonſtrated by the continuance of my vigilance and endeavours to make them a happy people.

And afterwards the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tueſday, the thirtieth day of September next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tueſday, the thirtieth day of September next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, November 18, 1746.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE called you together as early as the late concluſion of the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament, and the ſituation of public affairs, would permit. During this receſs, I have been particularly attentive to extinguiſh any remains of the late rebellion, and to re-eſtabliſh and ſecure our tranquillity at home, ſo far as depended upon me. The reſt I have reaſon to expect from your zeal and prudent deliberations; of which the foundation already laid gives me well-grounded hopes.

In the mean time the ſtate of the war abroad has received a conſiderable alteration. Though France has made ſome further progreſs in the Netherlands, yet the United Provinces, whoſe intereſts are ſo ſtrictly connected with our's, have been preſerved from that danger which threatened them at the opening of the campaign; and a conſiderable army remains there for their defence. It has pleaſed God to bleſs the arms of my good allies the Empreſs Queen of Hungary and the King of Sardinia, with ſignal

ſignal ſucceſs in Italy. The acquiſitions made there by our enemies have been recovered from them; their forces, broken and almoſt ruined, have been obliged to evacuate that country; and an irruption is now actually making into France, whereby the diſtreſſes of that kingdom muſt be greatly increaſed, and a proportionable diverſion made in favour of the Low Countries.

I have often aſſured you, that my ſole aim in carrying on this juſt and neceſſary war is a ſafe and honourable peace. In this view I have ſhewed a ſincere diſpoſition towards a general pacification. I have conſented to the holding of conferences at Breda, in order to try whether our enemies will, in the event, agree to ſuch terms and conditions as may be conſiſtent with the honour of my crown, the ſecurity and true intereſts of my kingdoms, and my engagements to my allies, whom it is my firm reſolution not to abandon.

But whilſt we are treating of peace, reaſon and good policy demand that we ſhould be prepared for war. I am therefore actually concerting with my allies the proper meaſures for vigorouſly purſuing the war in another campaign, in caſe the obſtinacy of our enemies ſhould render it neceſſary. My deſire is to adjuſt theſe meaſures as ſpeedily as poſſible, that our preparations may be early; that the confederate army in the Netherlands may be augmented in time; and the operations on the ſide of Italy carried on with effect. It ſhall alſo be my particular care to exert our ſtrength at ſea, in the moſt effectual manner, for the defence of my kingdoms and poſſeſſions, the protection of the trade of my ſubjects, and the annoyance of our enemies.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the eſtimates for the enſuing year to be prepared and laid before you; and deſire you to grant me ſuch ſupplies as ſhall be requiſite for your own ſecurity, and for carrying on ſuch meaſures as it ſhall be neceſſary for Great Britain to purſue in the preſent important conjuncture. It gives me much concern to be obliged at the ſame time to acquaint you, that, by reaſon of the unavoidable accidents and conſequences of war, the funds appropriated for the ſupport of my civil government have, for ſome years paſt, fallen greatly ſhort of the revenue intended and granted by Parliament: I therefore rely on your known affection to me, to find out ſome method to make good this deficiency.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Nothing is ſo valuable and eſſential to me, as your vigorous ſupport: on this I depend; and I truſt you will demonſtrate it by the zeal, unanimity, and diſpatch of your proceedings.

Addreſs to his Majeſty by the Houſe of Lords, Nov. 19, 1746.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Your Majeſty has given freſh proofs of your paternal goodneſs and care of your kingdoms, in your vigilance to extinguiſh any remains of the late rebellion, and to ſecure and re-eſtabliſh our tranquillity at home. That unnatural and flagitious enterpriſe, formed and ſupported by our moſt inveterate enemies, as it was aimed againſt your crown and royal family, ſtruck at the very foundations of the happineſs of your people. Your Majeſty may therefore be aſſured that, out of duty and affection to your Majeſty, and love to our country, our moſt zealous endeavours ſhall be exerted to perfect that good work, which by your arms and by your juſtice has hitherto been ſo ſucceſsfully conducted; and to make ſuch regulations as may be moſt conducive to the preventing the like evils for the future, and to the repoſe and ſecurity of the whole united kingdom.

Though we beheld with concern the progreſs made by our enemies in the Netherlands, yet it gives us great ſatisfaction to ſee the States General of the United Provinces, thoſe ancient and natural allies of Great Britain, ſtill preſerved from the ambitious and deſtructive projects formed againſt them. At the ſame time we rejoice in the ſignal ſucceſſes with which it has pleaſed God to bleſs the magnanimity and ſteadineſs of the Empreſs Queen of Hungary, and the King of Sardinia, in Italy. Nothing can be more conformable to the juſt expectations of this nation, or can contribute more to the advantage of the common cauſe, and to make France feel thoſe diſtreſſes which that power has endeavoured to bring upon others, than the effectual proſecution of thoſe ſucceſſes by a powerful invaſion of its dominions on that ſide.

With the utmoſt gratitude we acknowledge your Majeſty's tender regard for your people, in ſhewing ſo ſincere a diſpoſition towards a general pacification on ſafe and honourable terms. Your Majeſty's arms, taken up only for the juſt defence of your own rights and thoſe of your kingdoms, and of the common liberty, will always be directed by that deſirable end. And we beg leave, with great humility, to expreſs our concurrence in that opinion which your Majeſty has been pleaſed ſo wiſely to declare to your Parliament, that reaſon and prudence require

our

our being early prepared for another campaign, in case the obstinacy of our enemies should render it necessary.

On this account we should be inexcusable, if we did not return your Majesty our sincere thanks for your timely care to enter into a concert with your allies on the proper measures for that purpose; and for your gracious resolution to exert your naval strength in the most effectual manner, for the protection of the most valuable interests of your subjects, and for striking terror into your enemies.

We beseech your Majesty to accept the strongest assurances of our zealous and hearty support in these your salutary views and intentions; and that we will cheerfully concur in all such measures as shall be requisite to strengthen your Majesty's hands, either for procuring such a peace as may be consistent with the honour of your crown, the true interest of your people, and your engagements to your allies, or for prosecuting the war with vigour: and we beg leave to renew to your Majesty the most unfeigned professions of our entire conviction that the prosperity and well-being of these kingdoms do, under God, depend on our being secured against the ambitious designs of France, and on the preservation of your Majesty's government, and of the protestant succession in your royal house.

His Majesty's Answer, November 19, 1746.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this dutiful and affectionate address. The just sense you express of the present posture of affairs, and your assurances of supporting me and my allies in procuring a good peace, or prosecuting the war with vigour, give me entire satisfaction. The confidence you repose in me shall always be used for the true interests of my people.

Address by the House of Commons, November 19, 1746.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return our humble thanks for your Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne.

We are truly sensible of your Majesty's particular attention to extinguish the remains of the late rebellion: and we beg leave to assure your Majesty that we will not fail on our parts to answer your just expectations, by taking all such further measures

sures as shall appear conducive to re-establish, upon a lasting foundation, the security and tranquillity of your Majesty's government.

We most heartily congratulate your Majesty upon the signal success with which it has pleased God to bless the arms of your allies in Italy. The wise and vigorous measures they are jointly pursuing to improve it, by the irruption now actually making into France, give us just ground to hope, that by the happy consequences of that operation the distresses of our enemies may be so increased, and such advantages gained over them, as may balance in a great measure the losses sustained in the other part of the continent.

We acknowledge, with the deepest sense of gratitude, your Majesty's great care and paternal tenderness for your people, expressed in your Majesty's endeavours to procure a general pacification: and we do at the same time, with the greatest duty and affection, assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons will grant such timely and adequate supplies, as may, with the hearty concurrence and united efforts of your allies, enable your Majesty either to carry on the war in the most effectual manner both by sea and land, or to obtain such a peace as may be consistent with the honour of your crown, your engagements to your allies, and the true interest of your people.

We do humbly assure your Majesty, that we will take into our consideration and make good whatever deficiencies shall appear to us to have arisen in the funds appropriated for the support of your Majesty's civil government: and in this, and all other matters recommended to us by your Majesty we will proceed with that zeal, dispatch, and unanimity, as shall manifest to the world our dutiful attachment to your Majesty's person and government, and our constant attention to the welfare and prosperity of your kingdoms.

His Majesty's Answer, November 20, 1746.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this dutiful and affectionate address.

The firmness you shew on this occasion will, I doubt not, produce good effects.

Whatever provisions you shall find necessary in the present exigencies, you may depend on my employing for the welfare of my kingdoms and the prosperity of my people.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 17, 1747.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

NOTHING could have been more acceptable to me, than the zeal and dispatch with which you have gone through the public business during the course of this session. The care and attention you have shewn to extinguish any remains of the late rebellion, and to strengthen the foundations of our future tranquillity by new provisions, as well for restoring the proper authority of the government in North Britain, as for better securing the liberties of the people there, cannot fail to have the most beneficial consequences.

The great efforts you have made for carrying on the war in a vigorous manner, have shewn you not to be less attentive to our foreign than to our domestic interests. They have given spirit to my allies; and enabled me, in conjunction with them, to bring a numerous and powerful army early into the field; and to maintain strong squadrons at sea for the protection and defence of our trade and possessions, the annoyance of our enemies, and for supporting and enforcing the operations of my allies in Italy. The invasion made by France upon the territories of the States General of the United Provinces, has had a different effect from what our enemies promised themselves from it. The voluntary and speedy succour which I sent on that occasion was received with the utmost joy, and has been of great use; and the States have thereupon not only resolved on a great augmentation of their forces, which is actually making, but have taken such steps as must convince our enemies how determined they are vigorously to support their own independency, and the interest of the common cause. I have the peculiar satisfaction to acquaint you, that the union between Great Britain and the Republic, so necessary for both nations, was never more cordial, or better established, than it is at present.

The signal success which, by the blessing of God, has already attended my fleet, has happily disappointed some very pernicious projects of our enemies, and given a considerable blow to their naval strength, as well as to their commerce; which will be the most probable means of reducing them to reason. This is the great object which I have at heart; the sole view of all my measures being to put an end to the calamities of war by a safe and honourable peace.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I must acknowledge in a particular manner the zeal and application with which you have raised the necessary supplies for

for the ſervice of the current year; and your readineſs in making good the deficiency of the civil liſt funds, ariſing from the unavoidable conſequences of war, is a freſh inſtance of that regard and affection which I have always experienced from you. To be able to effectuate all this immediately, after the ſuppreſſing of an unnatural and expenſive rebellion, and under the burdens of war, muſt ſet the ſtrength and credit of the nation in the higheſt light, and ſecure to the crown of Great Britain that weight and reſpect, both with its friends and enemies, which juſtly belong to it.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

After the examples of juſtice which have been found neceſſary, I have with pleaſure taken the very firſt opportunity of doing what is more agreeable to my own inclination, the paſſing an Act of Grace. The good effect I promiſe myſelf from hence is, to heal in ſome meaſure thoſe wounds which have been made, and re-eſtabliſh the quiet of the kingdom; ſince by this act the generality of thoſe who have been deluded from their duty will find themſelves reſtored to ſecurity, and to the protection of thoſe laws which they had endeavoured to ſubvert. A juſt ſenſe of this early mercy will, I hope, induce them to make ſuch returns of loyalty and gratitude as ſo ſtrong an obligation requires.

As this Parliament would neceſſarily determine in a ſhort time, and as nothing will give ſo much weight and credit to our affairs abroad in the preſent conjuncture, as to ſhew the dependence I have upon the affections of my people, I have judged it expedient ſpeedily to call a new Parliament. But I ſhould think myſelf inexcuſable if I parted with this without publicly returning you my thanks for the many eminent inſtances you have given me of your inviolable fidelity and attachment to my perſon and government, and your unſhaken adherence to the true intereſt of your country, and the proteſtant ſucceſſion in my family. By the Divine bleſſing, and your vigorous aſſiſtance, I have been enabled to cruſh and defeat the moſt audacious attempt that has ever been made to overturn the preſent eſtabliſhment; and, at the ſame time, to furniſh that ſupport to our ancient and natural allies, which has already diſappointed ſome of the moſt dangerous views of ambition with which our enemies began the war. Such extraordinary merit, as it will always be gratefully remembered by me, muſt endear the memory of this Parliament to poſterity. From ſuch demonſtrations of the loyalty and affection of my faithful ſubjects, I do, with the utmoſt ſatisfaction, repoſe myſelf upon them; and do not in the leaſt doubt of receiving

new proofs of the same good disposition in the choice of their representatives.

I have nothing so much at heart as the preservation of the civil and religious rights of my people, and the maintenance of the true greatness and prosperity of this nation. From these principles I will never deviate, and in these principles every true Briton will concur. Let this appear by your conduct in the present conjuncture; and let no false arts or misrepresentations take place to interrupt, or weaken that confidence and harmony between me and my people which have been, and ever will be, productive of such happy effects.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the ninth day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the ninth day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 12, 1747.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AS one of my principal views in calling this Parliament was, that I might receive the most clear and certain information of the sense of my people on the present posture of affairs, I was desirous to meet you as early as your own convenience, as well as that of the public, would admit.

By the advice of my Parliament I entered into the war against Spain, in order to vindicate and secure the trade and commerce of my subjects. By their advice also, and in conformity to my engagements, I undertook the support of the Empress Queen of Hungary, and of the just rights of the house of Austria. In resentment for this conduct, so necessary for the interests of my own kingdoms, and of the ancient allies of my crown, France not only declared war against me, but fomented and supported an unnatural rebellion within this kingdom. In carrying on this just and necessary war, I have found the most cheerful and vigorous support from my Parliament: and though the success has not been answerable to our wishes and just expectations, in the Low Countries, yet it must be allowed, to the honour of this nation, that no part of the misfortunes can be imputed to us.

The signal successes which it has pleased God to grant us at sea, have made the enemy feel the weight of our naval strength, to their great loss, and the real and solid advantage of this nation. This has appeared most remarkably in the operations of my fleet this last year; which have tended no less to the honour of the British flag, than to the reduction of the maritime force and commerce of France. The government of the United Provinces has, once more, resumed that consistency which will give great strength to the common cause; cement more firmly the friendship between this kingdom and that republic: and be a lasting security to our inseparable interests. One great effect of this happy alteration in Holland has already appeared in the vigorous declaration lately made by the States General to the court of France; and the orders given by them for committing hostilities every where against the French King and his subjects.

Some overtures for a general pacification have lately been made to me on the part of France; and though some of the terms proposed were such as could not be approved, yet as I have had no other aim, but to bring about a safe and honourable peace, I have shewn the utmost inclination to facilitate it, in conjunction with my allies; and a congress is actually agreed to be held at Aix la Chapelle, whither the several ministers will soon repair. I hope all the powers concerned will bring with them the same dispositions to effectuate this great work, on just and reasonable conditions, which I sincerely have.

In this situation I am confident you will agree in opinion with me, that it is necessary to be vigilant and attentive to every event; and that there can be no reason to expect a good peace, but by being timely prepared to carry on a vigorous and effectual war. I therefore rely on your hearty and powerful support to enable me to prosecute the war, in case the obstinacy of our enemies, in not agreeing to just and reasonable terms of accommodation, should render it unavoidable. For this purpose I am now actually concerting the necessary measures with my allies, whose interests I am determined to adhere to and support. Let us be in readiness, in case the negotiations should fail of the desired effect, to convince our enemies how much they are mistaken if they vainly imagine that Great Britain, and her allies, will submit to receive the law from any power whatsoever; and demonstrate to the world that we will decline no difficulty or hazard for the preservation of the common liberty, and our own independency and essential interests.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

The neceſſity of adequate ſupplies appears from what has been already mentioned. The proper eſtimates for the ſervices of the enſuing year ſhall be laid before you; and I deſire you to grant me ſuch ſupplies as your own ſecurity and laſting welfare, and the preſent critical and important ſituation of affairs, require. You may depend on their being applied only to the purpoſes for which they ſhall be given; and if, by the falling out of events, any ſaving can be made, it ſhall be duly accounted for.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

If any farther proviſions ſhall be found expedient, to render more effectual the good laws lately made for the ſecurity of the preſent eſtabliſhment, extinguiſhing the ſpirit of rebellion, and for the better civilizing, improving, and reducing into order, any part of the united kingdom, I depend on your known affection to me and to your country, ſeriouſly and early to ſet about ſo good a work. I will only add, that there never was a conjuncture in which unanimity, firmneſs, and diſpatch were more neceſſary for the ſafety, honour, and true intereſt of Great Britain.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords, November 13, 1747.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

The generous and public ſpirited views with which your Majeſty entered into this juſt and neceſſary war, are evident to the whole world; and your people have been the more ſtrongly animated to ſupport it, by the part your enemies have taken, not only to overturn the liberties of Europe in general, but to diſturb your Majeſty's government, the ſolid foundation of our happineſs. The events of war are always uncertain; but at the ſame time that we ſee, with the greateſt concern, the miſfortunes which have happened in the Low Countries, we gratefully acknowledge your Majeſty's goodneſs and juſtice in vindicating the honour of this nation from any imputation ariſing from thence.

With unfeigned joy we congratulate your Majeſty on the ſignal ſucceſſes with which it has pleaſed God to bleſs your arms by ſea. No loſs can be more ſenſibly felt by your ene-

mies, and no advantage tend more to the glory and real benefit of your kingdoms, whoſe commerce and naval ſtrength muſt be increaſed in proportion as that of France is diminiſhed.

We cannot approach your royal perſon on this occaſion without expreſſing our higheſt ſatisfaction in thoſe events which have happened in Holland in favour of a Prince allied to your Majeſty by the neareſt ties, deſcended from an illuſtrious Houſe, in which the defence of public liberty has been hereditary, and which has produced deliverers of this country, as well as of that proteſtant republic. From this happy alteration we cannot but promiſe ourſelves the ſtricteſt union of councils between your Majeſty and the States General, and an additional ſtrength in purſuing ſuch meaſures as ſhall be moſt conducive to the common good of both nations; of which we conſider the ſeaſonable declaration lately made by the States to the court of France, and the orders given thereupon, as a ſtrong indication.

Your Majeſty's paternal concern for your people appears in nothing more, than in your ſincere deſire to bring about, in conjunction with your allies, an honourable peace on juſt and reaſonable terms. At the ſame time that we offer our humble thanks to your Majeſty for this gracious diſpoſition to procure eaſe and repoſe to your ſubjects by effectuating this great work, permit us to aſſure you, that we are convinced by paſt experience, as well as by your Majeſty's prudent declaration, that the only way to procure a good peace, is to be prepared to carry on a vigorous and effectual war. For this reaſon we cannot but gratefully acknowledge your Majeſty's vigilance and care to enter into a timely concert with your allies, in order to be in readineſs for that event.

We beg leave, from the bottom of our hearts, to give your Majeſty the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of our inviolable fidelity and affection to your ſacred perſon, family, and government; and that we will heartily and cheerfully concur to enable your Majeſty to proſecute the war with vigour, in caſe the obſtinacy of your enemies ſhould render it neceſſary; no difficulty or hazard being capable of leſſening our zeal and ſteadineſs for the maintenance of the honour of your crown, the independency and eſſential intereſts of your kingdoms, and for the defence of your allies.

We will not fail to take into our ſerious conſideration what further proviſions may be expedient for better ſecuring the preſent happy eſtabliſhment, extinguiſhing the ſpirit of rebellion, and for reforming and reducing into order ſuch parts of the united kingdom where the want of improvement, knowledge, and due obedience to the laws, has remarkably furniſhed op-

portunities

portunities to seduce the people from their loyalty. The stability of your Majesty's throne, the glory and tranquillity of your reign, and the prosperity of our fellow subjects, we have entirely at heart; and our utmost firmness, resolution, and dispatch, shall be exerted to attain those desirable ends which your Majesty has so wisely and graciously recommended to us.

His Majesty's Answer, November 13, 1747.

My Lords,

NOTHING could give me greater satisfaction than this dutiful and affectionate address. I heartily thank you for it; and do not doubt but the becoming zeal you have unanimously expressed, and your ready concurrence in my sentiments, will have a very good effect, both with our friends and enemies; and strengthen my hands to pursue such measures, either of peace or war, as shall be most conducive to the interests of my kingdoms, and the support of my allies.

Address by the House of Commons, Nov. 17, 1747.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our unfeigned thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

With hearts full of the sincerest joy we congratulate your Majesty on the great and important successes which it has pleased Almighty God to bestow on your Majesty's arms at sea, and which not only redound highly to the honour of the British nation, but, by reducing the maritime force of France, manifestly tend to the security of your Majesty's government, and the prosperity and trade of these kingdoms.

We beg leave to express to your Majesty the great and just satisfaction we have received from the happy settlement of the government of the United Provinces, in which a Prince so nearly allied to your Majesty has so great a share; nor can we doubt, but that the good effect resulting from that settlement will be a thorough union of councils between your Majesty and the republic; more especially as the vigorous declaration lately made by the States General to the court of France, gives us the strongest presumption, that in all measures, whether of peace or war, which shall be deemed for the honour, interest,

and security of these kingdoms, and that republic, they will co-operate zealously and firmly with your Majesty.

With the deepest sense of gratitude we acknowledge your Majesty's paternal care for the welfare of your subjects, in the sincere disposition your Majesty has shewn for a general pacification, by hearkening to the overtures lately made for that purpose, and endeavouring, on your Majesty's part, to bring about a speedy, safe, and honourable conclusion to this burthensome and expensive, though just and necessary war.

But if, contrary to our wishes and expectations, the enemies of Great Britain, by insisting on unreasonable and inadmissible terms, make the continuance of the war unavoidable, we beg leave to give your Majesty our most determined assurances, that we will support your Majesty to the utmost: and, in order to convince our enemies of this our steadfast resolution, we will immediately grant such supplies as may, in conjunction with your Majesty's allies, enable your Majesty to carry on the war with vigour, maintain the honour and dignity of the crown of Great Britain, and support the mutual interest of your Majesty, and your allies.

At the same time permit us to assure your Majesty, that we shall be ready to contribute our assistance towards perfecting and rendering more effectual those provisions which have been already made for securing the interior peace of these kingdoms, and establishing your Majesty's throne upon the most firm and lasting foundations.

His Majesty's Answer, November 24, 1747.

Gentlemen,

THE early marks of trust and confidence which you repose in me by this address, give me the greatest satisfaction.

You may be assured, that I have nothing more at heart than to put, as soon as possible, such an end to the present troubles as may be consistent with the good of my people, the security of my allies, and the honour and true interests of my kingdoms.

The humble Address of the Archbishop, the Bishops, and the Clergy of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation assembled; presented to his Majesty on Thursday, the twenty-fourth Day of March, 1748.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy, of the province of Canterbury,

terbury, in convocation aſſembled, beg leave to approach your royal throne, and to renew thoſe profeſſions of fidelity and obedience to your Majeſty which we have often ſolemnly made, and which proceed from fixed and unalterable principles in our hearts.

Your Majeſty's paternal care of your kingdoms, exerted in the vigilant defence of them, againſt the encroachments of an ambitious foreign enemy, and the wicked and traitorous attempts of domeſtic ones, in your ſtrict adherence to the laws, and your wiſe concern and proviſion for the regular and equal adminiſtration of them, in your merciful and generous uſe of your prerogative, in your preſervation of our eſtabliſhed church (the pureſt model of eccleſiaſtical government) conſiſtently with the rights and liberties of all your ſubjects, and in a moſt extenſive attention to every thing that can make us a flouriſhing and happy people, is the ſubject of our daily obſervation and daily praiſe. By ſuch a conduct your Majeſty has juſtly attained that ſovereign degree of affection and reverence to your royal perſon, which is the true glory of a king, and the firmeſt ſupport of his throne.

It was matter of the utmoſt ſatisfaction to your faithful clergy, and afforded them the moſt comfortable proſpect of your happy reign, that, at the beginning of it, your Majeſty was pleaſed to give them the moſt early aſſurances of your firm reſolution to maintain the church of England, and to ſecure to us the free profeſſion of our moſt holy religion. Your Majeſty has kept your royal word, and we cannot ſufficiently expreſs our thankfulneſs for that conſtancy and zeal with which your Majeſty has protected the proteſtant cauſe, both in your own dominions, and wherever elſe it is profeſſed.

We take the preſent opportunity, by your gracious permiſſion, to aſſure your Majeſty, that it is our ſteady reſolution to do every thing within the compaſs of our profeſſion, and which may be in our power to make your government eaſy, and your reign glorious; and, as the beſt teſtimony of our ſincerity towards God, and the ſureſt method of drawing down his bleſſings on the arms and councils of your Majeſty, we will make it our buſineſs, as it is our duty, to explain the doctrines, live up to the rules, and copy the temper enjoined us by our excellent religion, the natural means of preſerving and exalting a Chriſtian nation; and (if God for our ſins does not ſuſpend thoſe good effects) of ſtopping the mouth of infidelity, and checking the ſpirit of that licentiouſneſs which abounds to the diſhonour, and tends to the ruin of our country.

It is a maxim taught us by experience which will, we truſt, for ever ſecure your Majeſty and your deſcendants in the poſ-

ſeſſion of this imperial crown, that the people of Great Britain can never be ſafe and happy, but under this limited monarchy, adminiſtered according to our laws and conſtitution; and in keeping clear of the yoke of that corrupted and intolerable religion, which is not more repugnant to the goſpel of Chriſt, than it is to the natural rights and intereſts of men.

May the good providence of God, Sir, ever protect your ſacred perſon; may your reign be long and proſperous; and may there never be wanting in your royal family a race of princes, who, after the example of your Majeſty, ſhall be the defenders of our faith, and the guardians of our civil liberties, againſt all the attempts of popery and arbitrary power.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, March 24, 1748.

My Lords, and the reſt of the Clergy,

THESE affectionate aſſurances of your duty and fidelity to me, and of your zeal for my government, give me great ſatisfaction. I have nothing more at heart than the preſervation of the proteſtant intereſt, both at home and abroad; and it ſhall continue to be my particular care to protect and ſupport the church of England, as by law eſtabliſhed; and the religious and civil rights of all my people.

Meſſage from his Majeſty to the Houſe of Commons, April 18, 1748.

GEORGE REX.

THE court of ſeſſion in Scotland having, in purſuance of an act of the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament, finiſhed the examination thereby directed, touching the titles and values of the ſeveral heritable juriſdictions and offices, claimed before that court, and made a certificate of their opinions thereupon to his Majeſty in his privy council; and all the ſaid juriſdictions and offices being actually extinguiſhed, or reſumed and annexed to the crown reſpectively, from the 25th day of March laſt, his Majeſty has commanded a copy of the ſaid certificate to be laid before this Houſe; and recommends it to his faithful Commons, to make proviſion for the payment of ſuch reaſonable and juſt compenſation and ſatisfaction to the proprietors of thoſe juriſdictions and offices, as was by the ſaid act intended and directed.

His

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, May 13, 1748.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AT the opening of this ſeſſion of Parliament I informed you, that a congreſs had been agreed upon by the ſeveral powers at war; and I have now the ſatisfaction to acquaint you, that preliminaries for reſtoring a general peace have been ſigned between my miniſter and thoſe of the Moſt Chriſtian King, and the States General of the United Provinces; the baſis of which is a general reſtitution of conqueſts made during the war on all ſides.

In conſequence of theſe preliminaries, which have been ratified by all the contracting parties, a ceſſation of hoſtilities has actually taken place in the Low Countries and in the Channel; and certain periods are fixed, according to former practice, for its commencement in other parts of the world.

In this important tranſaction my great views have been, ſteadily to adhere to the true intereſts of Europe, to purſue and maintain thoſe of my own kingdoms in particular, and to procure for my allies the beſt terms and conditions that the events of a war, in ſome parts unſucceſsful, did admit.

I have, in the courſe of this negotiation, acted with the moſt unreſerved confidence and communication towards my allies: and I hope, that when they ſhall have maturely weighed the ſituation of affairs, the neceſſity from thence ariſing, and the care and attention which have been ſhewn for their advantage and ſecurity, they will not delay to accede to theſe preliminary articles, but concur in effectuating the good work of peace.

The vigorous and powerful ſupport you have given me during this ſeſſion, towards carrying on the war, has ſtrengthened my hands in proceeding thus far in the meaſures of peace. No body can ſuggeſt the leaſt failure on the part of Great Britain; which, not only for the ſake of its own particular intereſt, but of the common cauſe, has taken on itſelf a ſhare of the burden unexampled in former times. I hope ſoon to ſee this neceſſary work brought to perfection with the concurrence of all my allies, with whom it is my firm intention to cultivate the moſt perfect harmony, and to cement and ſtrengthen, if poſſible, the ties of our ancient union and friendſhip in ſuch a manner as may render the peace ſecure and durable.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

My particular thanks are due to you for the ample proviſion you have made for the ſervice of the current year. Nothing could have contributed ſo much to the putting an end to the

cala-

calamities of war, and reducing our future expenses, as these well-judged supplies. The most prudent œconomy shall be made use of in the application of them; and you may be assured, nothing will give me more real pleasure than to take the first opportunity of lessening the present burdens of my people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I cannot sufficiently express my entire satisfaction in your whole conduct during this session; and I must recommend it to you, to promote in your several countries a right sense of those measures which have been so necessarily taken for the security and ease of my people. As it is the earnest desire of my heart to see the crown of Great Britain maintain that figure, strength, and weight, in making war and peace, which justly belong to it, it is equally so, to see my good subjects enjoy the blessings of tranquillity and prosperity.

And afterwards the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued until Thursday, the thirtieth day of June next, to be then here held; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued until Thursday, the thirtieth day of June next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 29, 1748.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I ACQUAINTED you at the close of the last session of Parliament, that preliminary articles for a general pacification had been signed by my ministers and those of the Most Christian King and the States General of the United Provinces; to which the Empress Queen of Hungary, the Kings of Spain and Sardinia, and the other powers engaged in the war, soon afterwards acceded.

I lost no time in taking the proper measures with my allies, for effectuating a general peace by a definitive treaty, in which all parties were to concur: and notwithstanding the difficulties which must attend so extensive a work, wherein the respective interests of so many powers were to be finally adjusted by common consent, I have been able, by the blessing of God, in the course of the summer, to complete it; and I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that a definitive treaty, previously

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concerted with my allies, has been ſigned by my miniſters and thoſe of France and the States General; to which all the other powers concerned in the war have acceded without reſerve.

It has been my chief endeavour, in putting an end to the calamities of war, to make the moſt effectual proviſion for ſecuring the rights and intereſts of my own ſubjects, and to procure the beſt terms and conditions for my allies that the ſituation of affairs would admit: and I take much ſatisfaction in being able to tell you, that I have found a general good diſpoſition in all the parties engaged in the war, to bring this negotiation to a happy concluſion. From theſe circumſtances we may promiſe ourſelves, under God, a long enjoyment of the bleſſings of peace, provided we make the right uſe and improvement of it.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

As great a progreſs has been made towards reducing the public expenſes as the nature of the caſe would allow; and I only deſire you to grant me ſuch ſupplies as may be requiſite for the ſervice of the current year, for your own ſecurity, and for making good ſuch engagements as have been already entered into, and laid before you. Times of tranquillity are the proper ſeaſons for leſſening the national debt, and ſtrengthening ourſelves againſt future events; and, as the neceſſary means for theſe purpoſes, I muſt recommend to you the improvement of the public revenue, and the maintaining our naval force in proper ſtrength and vigour.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is impoſſible for me to ſpeak to you on this ſubject of the happy re-eſtabliſhment of the public tranquillity without returning you my ſincereſt thanks for the great and affectionate ſupport you have given me, in carrying on this juſt and neceſſary war; in which not only the common cauſe of Europe, but our own independency and eſſential intereſts, were highly concerned: as the extraordinary burdens which it brought upon my good ſubjects gave me much uneaſineſs, ſo I could not but wiſh to ſee as ſpeedy an end put to them as poſſible. Whatever the events of war may have been, the bravery of my troops has diſtinguiſhed itſelf on every occaſion to their laſting honour; and our ſignal ſucceſſes at ſea muſt ever be remembered to the glory of the Britiſh fleet, and entitle it to the particular attention and ſupport of this nation. You will further conſider, that thoſe brave men, who have ſerved well

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by sea or land, and cannot now be employed, justly deserve to be the objects of your favour and protection.

As my first care has been to take the most early measures, that my people may, as soon as possible, reap the benefits of peace, so I doubt not of your cheerful assistance in perfecting this good work. Let me earnestly recommend to you the advancement of our commerce, and cultivating the arts of peace, in which you may depend on my hearty concurrence and encouragement. It shall be my endeavour to continue these blessings, by a punctual execution of the engagements now taken, and by maintaining the most perfect harmony and good correspondence with the friends and allies of Great Britain.

The experience I have had of you, makes me rely on the zeal, unanimity, and dispatch of your proceedings; and you may be assured, that nothing shall be wanting on my part to make you a flourishing and happy people.

Address by the House of Lords, Nov. 30, 1748.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

The joy which all your faithful subjects feel on your Majesty's safe and happy return into this kingdom is incapable of any addition; but it gives us, at this time, a peculiar satisfaction, as it is accompanied with a general peace, effectuated by your Majesty's prudence and firmness, and with the concurrence of all your allies. On the successful conclusion of this great work we heartily congratulate your Majesty; and, with the utmost thankfulness, acknowledge your wisdom and indefatigable labours in carrying on the late just and necessary war, entered into for supporting the liberties of Europe, and securing the independency and most essential interests of this kingdom. We are equally sensible of the tender regard your Majesty has shewn for your people in the re-establishment of public tranquillity.

We cannot be ignorant of the many difficulties which must have attended this important and extensive negotiation; and we look upon it as a great instance of your Majesty's vigilant and active care for the public welfare, that it has been brought to perfection, in concert with, and with the concurrence of, so many powers in so short a time.

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With hearts full of duty of affection, we offer our thanks to your Majesty for your paternal goodness, in considering with so much tenderness the burdens of your subjects, and in taking the very first opportunity to give them ease, and to enable them to reap the benefits of the pacification. Excited by your gracious example, and our love to our country, we assure your Majesty of our cheerful and hearty concurrence in all such measures as may tend to perfect what your Majesty has so prudently begun; may improve our trade and commerce; promote quiet and harmony at home, and render the blessings of peace, under the Divine protection, general and lasting to your people. In doing this, we will never fail to have the utmost attention to the honour of your Majesty's crown, the stability of your throne, and the safety of your kingdoms.

We have a just sense of the distinguished behaviour of your Majesty's forces by sea and land during the war. We look upon them as an honour and strength to their country: and we applaud that goodness which your Majesty has expressed in recommending such of them as cannot now be employed, to the favour and protection of Parliament. Your Majesty's sentiments concerning the naval force of this kingdom are highly worthy of a King of Great Britain, who has the honour and interest of this nation entirely at heart; and the signal success that has attended it in the war, as well as the consequences to be derived from it for maintaining the peace, cannot fail to shew the necessity of giving the utmost attention to the support and encouragement of the fleet.

Permit us, Sir, upon this happy occasion of approaching your royal throne, to give your Majesty the strongest assurances of our inviolable duty and fidelity to your sacred person, and our zeal for the preservation of the protestant succession in your illustrious house, the great bulwark of our religion and liberties. To these principles we will always steadfastly adhere; and we faithfully promise your Majesty to exert our utmost endeavours to support you in maintaining that repose which your Majesty has restored to your kingdoms, as well as to preserve and cultivate the most perfect correspondence and union with the friends and allies of Great Britain, and to promote the glory and happiness of your reign.

His Majesty's Answer, November 30, 1748.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this dutiful and affectionate address. The satisfaction you have so unanimously expressed in the measures I have taken, is particularly agreeable to me; and you

may be assured, that both in war and in peace, my great aim has been, and always shall be, the advancement of the true interests of my people and the support of my allies.

Address by the House of Commons, November 30, 1748.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our unfeigned thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne, and to congratulate your Majesty on your safe and happy return to these kingdoms.

We acknowledge, with the utmost gratitude, your Majesty's constant attention to the good of your people; and beg leave to congratulate your Majesty on the success of your endeavours for restoring peace to Europe, by the happy conclusion of a definitive treaty, in which all your allies have concurred without reserve; and we cannot, on this occasion, but admire your Majesty's wisdom and conduct, by which you have, in so short a space of time, reconciled and adjusted so many jarring interests, and completed this great and necessary work.

Permit us, Sir, humbly to return your Majesty our thanks for your tender regard to your faithful subjects, in taking the first opportunity to reduce the public expenses, which has been done with unusual dispatch; and we acknowledge equally your Majesty's wisdom in recommending to us œconomy and the improvement of the revenue, both absolutely necessary in our present circumstances, in order to lessen the national debt, ease your people, and strengthen ourselves against all future events; and we assure your Majesty, that we will omit nothing which may conduce to these important and salutary ends.

It gives the highest satisfaction to your faithful Commons, that your Majesty has been graciously pleased to take notice of the bravery of your forces by sea and land, an honour their behaviour has most justly deserved; and we do assure your Majesty, that all due attention shall be paid on our part to the services of those gallant men, who have signalised themselves so gloriously in defence of their country.

We are truly sensible of the importance of that signal success which has attended your Majesty's arms at sea through the course of the war; and are fully convinced how necessary it is to maintain our fleets in perfect strength and order, even in times of the most profound peace. Your faithful Commons beg leave humbly to assure your Majesty, that they will

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grant ſuch ſupplies as are neceſſary to ſecure effectually the peace and tranquillity of your Majeſty's government, and to preſerve the honour of the nation by making good its engagements; and that the chief objects of our conſideration ſhall be, what your Majeſty has ſo graciouſly and wiſely recommended to us, the improvement of our commerce, the ſupporting and ſtrengthening of public credit, and the cultivation of the arts of peace, that your Majeſty may be enabled to gratify your royal inclinations, by making this nation a flouriſhing and happy people, under your auſpicious government, and that of your royal family, to future generations.

Her Majeſty's Anſwer, December 5, 1748.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you moſt heartily for this very affectionate addreſs.

You may rely upon my ready concurrence with you in the execution of all ſuch meaſures as will relieve my people as ſoon as poſſible from the burdens which the exigencies of war have laid upon them, and procure to them the bleſſings of a ſafe and laſting peace.

Meſſage from his Majeſty to the Houſe of Commons, March 17, 1749.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majeſty has received a memorial from the miniſter of his good ſiſter and ally the Empreſs Queen of Hungary reſiding at his court, containing the ſtrongeſt inſtances for the ſpeedy payment of one hundred thouſand pounds, being part of the ſum of four hundred thouſand pounds, appropriated, by an act of the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament, for enabling the Empreſs Queen to ſupport her allies, and to maintain her reſpective contingents of troops in the Low Countries and in Italy for the year 1748, purſuant to treaty. Some difficulties having ariſen, in reſpect of the payment thereof, from the reſtrictive expreſſions of the ſaid treaty; and his Majeſty being deſirous that all reaſonable ſatisfaction may be given to his ſaid good ſiſter and ally in this behalf, recommends the ſaid memorial to the conſideration of his faithful Commons.

G. R.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 13, 1749.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I COME now to put an end to this session of Parliament, which is become the more necessary, by reason of the advanced season of the year.

The definitive treaty of Aix la Chapelle having been, by my order, laid before you several months ago, you have all been fully informed of the terms and conditions on which it was made; and have already had the satisfaction to see them carried into execution by the several contracting parties with great punctuality and good faith, so far as the time and distance of place would admit. Nothing now remains but to preserve and improve the peace so happily re-established. All the powers concerned have declared themselves in so clear and friendly a manner on this subject, as leaves no room to doubt of their sincere disposition to render the peace lasting in all parts: my earnest desire to promote the welfare of my own subjects, and the general tranquillity of Europe, will make me exert my endeavours for the same good end, by steadily adhering to the engagements I have entered into, and cultivating the most perfect union and harmony with my allies, upon whose ready concurrence in all proper measures for that purpose I have the greatest reason to depend.

It is with great satisfaction I have seen part of this session employed in considerations for advancing the trade and navigation of my kingdoms: I hope, at your next meeting, you will be able to perfect what has now been begun; particularly by taking the proper methods to render our naval force the most useful and serviceable, which is so essential to the protection of our commerce and to our security in all times.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my thanks for the supplies you have granted me, and for the attention you have shewn to maintain the public credit, which I rejoice to see in so flourishing a condition at the end of an expensive, though necessary war. The readiness with which you have enabled me to satisfy the demands of my allies is very agreeable to me, and cannot fail to produce the best effects.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Let me recommend it to you to improve the advantages of our present situation, for the quiet and stability of my government, and the true interest and happiness of my people; and

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in your ſeveral countries to promote ſuch principles and diſpoſitions, as may be moſt conducive to thoſe deſirable ends.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurſday, the third day of Auguſt next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the third day of Auguſt next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, November 16, 1749.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is with particular pleaſure that I now meet you in Parliament, at a time, when the complete re-eſtabliſhment of a general peace has reſtored to my people the bleſſings of quiet and tranquillity. The good effects reſulting from hence do already appear, in the flouriſhing condition of our commerce, and the riſe of the public credit; which naturally lay the ſureſt foundations of an increaſe of ſtrength, and of laſting proſperity to my kingdoms. I have not failed this ſummer to make uſe of every opportunity of cementing and ſecuring the peace; and it is my firm reſolution to do every thing in my power for the preſervation of it, and religiouſly to adhere to the engagements I have entered into.

I have the ſatisfaction to acquaint you, that I have found all the contracting powers in the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, as well as the reſt of my allies, in the ſame good diſpoſition; and have no reaſon to doubt of their concurrence in the ſame deſirable end. It is unneceſſary for me to tell you, that nothing can contribute ſo much to the continuance and improvement of this happy ſituation of affairs, as the effectual ſupporting of that weight and influence, which properly belong to the crown of Great Britain.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the proper officers to prepare and lay before you the eſtimates for the ſervice of the enſuing year. I deſire ſuch ſupplies only as ſhall be found neceſſary for the ſecurity and welfare of the nation: and in that view, I muſt earneſtly recommend to you the maintaining of my fleet in its full ſtrength; and that you would be watchful to improve any opportunity of putting the national debt in a method of being

reduced, with a ſtrict regard to public faith and private property.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing to deſire of you, but that you would, with unanimity and diſpatch, purſue ſuch meaſures, as may be moſt conducive to your own real and laſting intereſt. Whatever good laws you ſhall propoſe for the advancement of our trade and navigation, and for encouraging a ſpirit of induſtry in all parts of the kingdom, will be extremely acceptable to me: and you may reſt aſſured, that I ſhall always look upon the true greatneſs of my crown, and the ſtability of my government, as inſeparably united with the happineſs and proſperity of my people.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords, Nov. 17, 1749.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

The good effects reſulting to your kingdoms from the complete re-eſtabliſhment of the general tranquillity, which are ſo ſenſibly felt in our commerce and public credit, are the moſt intereſting ſubject of our congratulations to your Majeſty: but we ſhould fall ſhort of thoſe ſentiments which we feel in our breaſts on this occaſion, if we did not, at the ſame time, gratefully acknowledge, that, under the Divine protection, theſe bleſſings are owing to your royal care and vigilance for the good of your people.

The ſame gracious concern for our welfare, and for the repoſe of Europe, has induced your Majeſty to improve every opportunity to cement and ſecure that peace which has been ſo lately reſtored to us; and it gives us great ſatisfaction to be informed, that this good diſpoſition has been ſhewn by all the contracting powers in the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, and by the reſt of your Majeſty's allies.

Your Majeſty's wiſe admonition, confirmed by paſt experience, convinces us, that the effectual maintaining that weight and influence which properly belong to the crown of Great Britain, is eſſential to the duration and improvement of this happy ſituation. Our intereſt, therefore, as well as our duty, obliges us unfeignedly to aſſure your Majeſty of our hearty and zealous concurrence and ſupport in all ſuch meaſures as

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ſhall be moſt conducive to this great end, as well as to the preſervation of the peace.

To keep up the naval force of this kingdom in full vigour; to protect and advance its trade and navigation, to encourage and extend a ſpirit of induſtry in the nation, are objects truly becoming your royal wiſdom: and your Majeſty's perſeverance in the purſuit of them will always ſecure to you the hearts and affections of your ſubjects. Your Majeſty could not have given a more acceptable proof of your fixed attention to their welfare, than by recommending theſe conſiderations with ſo much earneſtneſs to your Parliament. The leaſt return we can make for ſo much goodneſs is, to promiſe your Majeſty, on our part, the moſt ready aſſiſtance and concurrence in effectuating the proper means for theſe ſalutary purpoſes.

Permit us, from the bottom of our hearts, to give your Majeſty the ſtrongeſt aſſurances, that we conſider the true greatneſs of your crown, and the ſtability of your government, as being, under God, the ſolid foundation of the felicity of your people. From this principle we will never depart, nothing being more certain, than that theſe kingdoms can never be happy but in the preſervation of your ſacred perſon, and the ſecurity of the proteſtant ſucceſſion in your royal family, which we are determined always to defend and maintain.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 17, 1749.

My Lords,

THE aſſurances you give me, in this dutiful and affectionate addreſs, are ſuch as deſerve my moſt hearty thanks. The ſentiments which you expreſs, concerning the preſent ſituation of affairs, are extremely agreeable to me, and cannot fail to give great ſatisfaction both at home and abroad.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Commons, November 17, 1749.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, return your Majeſty our ſincere and hearty thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We beg leave to congratulate your Majeſty on the complete re-eſtabliſhment of a general peace, whereby the bleſſings of

tranquillity are reſtored to your people; and to expreſs our ſatisfaction at the good diſpoſition which your Majeſty has found in all your allies, as well as in the contracting powers in the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, to continue and preſerve ſo deſirable a ſituation, from whence we have not only the comfortable proſpect of future eaſe, but may likewiſe promiſe ourſelves, through the flouriſhing condition of our commerce, and natural riſe of public credit, a gradual increaſe of our national ſtrength.

With a zeal and gratitude indiſpenſably due to the many inſtances of your Majeſty's paternal affection for your people, we acknowledge your great wiſdom in recommending to us the reduction of the national debt as an object worthy of our moſt ſerious attention; and we aſſure your Majeſty we will apply ourſelves with all poſſible diligence, to find out the propereſt means to accompliſh ſo great and neceſſary a work with the ſtricteſt regard to public faith and private property.

This Houſe, earneſtly deſirous effectually to promote the mutual and inſeparable intereſt of your Majeſty and your people, will grant ſuch ſupplies to your Majeſty as ſhall be found neceſſary for the ſecurity and welfare of the nation, which cannot be better provided for than by maintaining the fleet in ſuch a condition as may enable your Majeſty to preſerve that weight and influence which properly belong to the crown of Great Britain: and we will do all that in us lies to encourage a general ſpirit of induſtry, and advance our trade and navigation, the two great ſources of the wealth and ſtrength of this kingdom.

Your faithful Commons aſſure your Majeſty, they are fully ſenſible that their preſent and future proſperity and happineſs depend, under God, upon the ſtability of your Majeſty's government, and the ſucceſſion eſtabliſhed in your royal family.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 20, 1749.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you moſt heartily for this very kind and dutiful addreſs.

You may be aſſured of all poſſible returns of affection from me. I have nothing ſo much at heart as to ſee my people flouriſhing and happy under my government.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, April 12, 1750.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT put an end to this session of Parliament without returning you my hearty thanks for the zeal and dispatch with which you have gone through the public business. Nothing could have afforded me more satisfaction than the attention you have given to those essential points of our national interest which I earnestly recommended to you at the opening of the session. And it is with the greatest pleasure I have now given my assent to those laws which have been the result of your prudent deliberations, for advancing the public credit; for promoting the commerce and manufactures of this kingdom; and for encouraging the industry of my good subjects.

There has been so little alteration in the state of affairs abroad since your meeting, that I have scarce any thing to add upon that head. My resolution to adhere strictly to the engagements I have entered into, and to do every thing in my power to preserve the peace which has been so happily established, continues the same; and I have received the fullest assurances from all my allies, of their disposition to promote this great end. My sincere endeavours shall be exerted to cultivate and improve this good disposition, that my own kingdoms, as well as the rest of Europe, may long enjoy the happy fruits of the present tranquillity.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you in a particular manner for the supplies you have so readily granted me; and for the public spirit you have shewn in laying hold of the very first opportunity to reduce the interest of the national debt without the least infringement of parliamentary faith. The success which has already attended this wise measure, is a proof of the present credit of this kingdom; and has laid a sure foundation for the continuance of it, and cannot fail to add strength and reputation to my government, both at home and abroad.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I make no doubt but you will carry into your respective countries the same good principles and affections which I have experienced from you here. Let it be your business to promote peace and harmony, and to support and propagate religion, good manners, and good order amongst my people, whose true and lasting happiness shall be my constant care.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued until Thursday, the fourteenth day of June next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the fourteenth day of June next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, January 17, 1751.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE postponed your meeting to this time, that I might consult your private convenience, as far as was consistent with the occasions of the public. The continuance of the present tranquillity has afforded me an opportunity for the former, and rendered the latter less pressing. Since the last session, my care and attention have been constantly employed in improving this situation: and I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that I have concluded a treaty with my good brother the King of Spain, whereby such particular differences, as from the nature of them could not be settled in a general treaty, have been amicably adjusted without the intervention of any other party; and the commerce of my subjects with that country re-established upon the most advantageous and sure foundations.

In the progress of this work I have received such assurances of the sincere disposition of the Catholic King, to cement and maintain the most perfect union with me, as leaves no room to doubt of its good effects being felt in all parts; and there is the greatest reason to hope, that the ancient friendship and good correspondence between the two nations, which had been long unfortunately interrupted, will, from mutual interest and inclination, be now effectually restored.

I have also, in conjunction with the Empress Queen and the States General, concluded a treaty with the Elector of Bavaria; and am taking such further measures as may best tend to strengthen and secure the tranquillity of the empire, support its system, and timely prevent such events as have been found by experience to endanger the common cause, involved Europe in the calamities of war, and occasioned the loss of much blood and treasure to my own kingdoms.

Both these treaties shall be laid before you; and as I have told you the views with which I have entered into them, I must do justice to all the other contracting powers in the definitive treaty of

of Aix-la-Chapelle, by acquainting you that I have received from them the most full and clear declarations of their resolution to preserve the general peace.

That nothing might be wanting for these salutary purposes, I have taken care to strengthen and consolidate the ties of union and friendship between me and my allies, the better to secure our mutual interests, maintain the peace already subsisting, and to prevent the occasion of any future rupture: and that there might remain no doubt of the uprightness and security of my intentions, I have made the proper communication of the measures I have taken, and the principles on which they have been founded.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered estimates to be laid before you for the service of the current year; I desire only such supplies as shall be necessary for your own security, and making good such engagements as have been contracted, and are now communicated to you. The successful and happy progress which has been made in the reduction of the interest of the national debt does great honour to this Parliament, and adds much to our reputation in foreign countries. So little of this great work remains unfinished, that I make no doubt of your completing it this session in the most just and equitable manner.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing further to recommend to you in particular. Let me exhort you in general to make the best use of the present tranquillity, for improving the trade and commerce of my kingdoms, for enforcing the execution of the laws, and for suppressing those outrages and violences which are inconsistent with all good order and government, and endanger the lives and properties of my subjects, whose happiness and flourishing condition I have entirely at heart.

Address by the House of Lords, January 18, 1751.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Your Majesty's paternal care, always watchful for the prosperity of your kingdoms, and mixed with a generous extensive concern for the common welfare of Europe, has appeared in

nothing more than in your unwearied endeavours to improve the present ſtate of tranquillity. This muſt be evident to all the world, from the ſeries of important tranſactions which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to lay before us; and it is with the utmoſt thankfulneſs we acknowledge your goodneſs in communicating to us that a treaty has been ſo ſucceſsfully concluded between your Majeſty and the King of Spain. As the commerce of theſe kingdoms is the ſource of the wealth of your ſubjects, and of the ſtrength and ſplendour of your crown, ſo your Majeſty's attention to re-eſtabliſh our trade with that country on the moſt advantageous conditions, is a freſh inſtance of your uninterrupted vigilance for the moſt eſſential concerns of your people. Mutual intereſt and mutual inclination are the beſt foundations of a laſting amity and good correſpondence; which, from the concurrence of ſuch motives, we firmly hope will be happily reſtored between the two nations in all parts; and that thoſe cauſes which have long interrupted them, are now effectually removed.

Your royal wiſdom has not been confined to the adjuſting of preſent differences and the remedying of inconveniences actually exiſting: it is with pleaſure we obſerve that your foreſight is exerting itſelf to ſecure us, as far as can be done by human prudence, againſt ſuch events as have formerly involved Europe in the calamities of war. In this view we look upon the treaty which your Majeſty has lately concluded with the Elector of Bavaria, and the further meaſures which you are graciouſly pleaſed to inform us are carrying on for ſecuring the tranquillity and ſupporting the ſyſtem of the empire. Nothing can tend more to effectuate theſe meaſures than the ſtrengthening and conſolidating the ties of union and friendſhip between your Majeſty and your allies, which cannot fail at the ſame time to be attended with the beſt conſequences for promoting our mutual intereſts, preſerving the general repoſe, and preventing the occaſion of any future rupture.

We are truly ſenſible of your Majeſty's goodneſs in laying before us theſe your ſalutary views and intentions. In the proſecution of them the weight and influence of the crown of Great Britain are very viſible; and we do with the greateſt cheerfulneſs aſſure your Majeſty of our ſteady and zealous ſupport in all ſuch meaſures as may beſt anſwer theſe deſirable ends.

Our unſhaken duty and affection to your ſacred perſon, and our love of our country, are the ſureſt pledges of our conduct. It ſhall be our firſt care to demonſtrate our inviolable adherence to theſe principles, nor ſhall any thing be wanting on our part to advance the trade and flouriſhing condition of theſe kingdoms,

doms, to enforce the obſervance of the laws and of good order amongſt your people, and to maintain the dignity and ſtrength of your Majeſty's crown and government, both at home and abroad.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, January 18, 1751.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this dutiful and affectionate addreſs. The ſatisfaction you have ſo unanimouſly expreſſed in the treaties I have lately concluded, and the meaſures which I am purſuing, gives me the greateſt pleaſure. I entirely rely on your zeal and ſupport in bringing them to perfection, for the welfare of my own kingdoms, and the general tranquillity of Europe.

Addreſs by the Commons, January 18, 1751.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, return your Majeſty our ſincere and hearty thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We beg leave to congratulate your Majeſty on your ſafe and happy return to theſe kingdoms; and to expreſs the warmeſt acknowledgments of our gratitude for your Majeſty's unwearied endeavours to eſtabliſh the preſent tranquillity upon the ſureſt foundations.

We congratulate your Majeſty on the concluſion of a treaty with the King of Spain, by which the particular differences that from the nature of them could not be ſettled in a general treaty, are now amicably adjuſted, and we feel the moſt real ſatisfaction at the reaſon there is to hope, from the aſſurances which your Majeſty has received of the ſincere diſpoſition of the Catholic King to cement and maintain the moſt perfect union with your Majeſty, that the ancient friendſhip will be reſtored, and an uninterrupted good correſpondence ſubſiſt between the two nations, to their mutual advantage and happineſs.

We reſpectfully acknowledge your Majeſty's great wiſdom and foreſight, in taking the beſt meaſures timely to prevent ſuch events as might hereafter involve Europe in the calamities of war; and we have the beſt-grounded hopes, from the full and clear declaration of all the contracting powers in the definitive treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, as well as from your Majeſty's

care and attention to ſtrengthen the ties of union and friendſhip between your Majeſty and your allies, that we ſhall long enjoy the bleſſings of a general peace.

We aſſure your Majeſty that we cheerfully raiſe ſuch ſupplies as ſhall be found neceſſary for the ſecurity of your Majeſty's government, and to make good the engagements entered into by your Majeſty for the public benefit, and according to your gracious intention, communicated to this Houſe.

It is with the greateſt ſatisfaction that we receive your Majeſty's gracious approbation of the progreſs already made towards reducing the intereſt of the national debt; and we aſſure your Majeſty, that we will uſe our immediate endeavours to finiſh that great work with juſtice and equity.

Your faithful Commons beg leave to expreſs their ſenſe of the happineſs they enjoy under your Majeſty's government; and to aſſure your Majeſty that they are determined to give all poſſible attention to whatever may promote the trade and commerce of theſe kingdoms; and that they will endeavour to render the laws more effectual by enforcing their execution, thereby to diſcourage and ſuppreſs the outrages and enormities committed in defiance of them.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, January 22, 1751.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you moſt heartily for this affectionate addreſs: you may depend upon my conſtant endeavours to preſerve the general tranquillity in Europe; and to promote the particular intereſts and happineſs of my people.

His Majeſty's Meſſage to the Houſe of Commons, April 26, 1751.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majeſty having it entirely at heart to ſecure the future welfare and happineſs of his people, has maturely conſidered that nothing can conduce ſo much (under the protection of the Divine Providence) to the preſervation of the proteſtant ſucceſſion in his royal family, and the ſupport of the religion, laws, and liberties of theſe kingdoms, (which have been always moſt dear to him,) as the making proper proviſions for the care and tuition of the perſon of his ſucceſſor, and for the regular adminiſtration of the government, in caſe ſuch ſucceſſor ſhould be of tender years; by means whereof their ſafety and princely education may be ſecured, the public peace and good order maintained, and the ſtrength and glory of the crown of

of Great Britain suffer no diminution. For these reasons, his Majesty, out of his paternal affection and tenderness for his royal family and for all his faithful subjects, earnestly recommends it to both Houses of Parliament, to take this weighty affair into their most serious deliberation; and proposes to their consideration, that when the imperial crown of these realms shall descend to any of the issue of his son, the late Prince of Wales, being under the age of eighteen years, the Princess Dowager of Wales, their mother, should be guardian of the person of such successor, and regent of these kingdoms, until they shall attain such age; with such powers and limitations as shall appear necessary and expedient for these important purposes.

Joint Address by both Houses to the King, April 26, 1751.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament assembled, approach your royal throne with hearts filled at the same time with the deepest sense of gratitude to your Majesty, and with the most serious and anxious concern for the future welfare of our country.

To return your Majesty our thanks for your most gracious message, falls infinitely short of those sentiments with which the subject of it inspires us. It excites in us the most sensible feeling of all those blessings which we have enjoyed during your most auspicious and glorious reign; of the mildness and benignity of your government, and of that constant protection which your Majesty has always extended to our religion, laws, and liberties, which you have demonstrated by your conduct, as well as declared by your royal words, to be most dear to you. Happy would it be for all your faithful subjects, if Heaven, in mercy to these kingdoms, would graciously permit a reign so distinguished with every mark of goodness that can endear a British monarch to his people, to be prolonged beyond the ordinary date. To look forward to its period anticipates a grief which no words can express. Your Majesty's greatness of mind, shewn in your message, has called upon us, and set us the example, to enter into such considerations as the high importance of the occasion requires.

Not content with being the great instrument of our happiness during your own time, your Majesty has pointed out to us a generous concern to provide for the continuance of that happiness, (as far as human foresight can do,) after God shall have deprived us of the inestimable blessing of your immediate care.

In

In return for this paternal goodneſs, permit us to aſſure your Majeſty that we will loſe no time in taking into our conſideration the weighty affair laid before us in your meſſage.

We are truly ſenſible of the high and eminent qualities of her royal highneſs the Princeſs Dowager of Wales; and we look upon what your Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to propoſe to our conſideration, as the reſult of your wiſdom and tender concern for your royal family, and the intereſt of theſe kingdoms; and we ſhall have the moſt dutiful regard to what your Majeſty has been pleaſed ſo wiſely to recommend.

In our deliberations on this important ſubject, we ſhall think it our duty as well as our eſſential intereſt, to have the ſtricteſt and moſt zealous attention to the preſervation of the proteſtant ſucceſſion, as ſettled by law in your royal family, the numerous hopeful branches whereof, formed by your inſtruction and led by your example, we look upon as ſo many pledges of the ſecurity of our religious and civil rights to future generations.

May it pleaſe the Divine Providence to grant your Majeſty ſuch confirmed health and length of days, as may render thoſe proviſions which your wiſdom has ſuggeſted to us on this occaſion, unneceſſary in the event; that we may very long enjoy the benefits of your gracious government, and your Majeſty the dutiful and affectionate returns of a moſt obliged, loyal, and grateful people.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, April 29, 1751.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate addreſs. The zeal you expreſs for me and my family, and the ſenſe you ſhew of my care and concern for the intereſt of my people, is very agreeable to me.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, June 25, 1751.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE advanced ſeaſon of the year makes it neceſſary for me to put an end to this ſeſſion of Parliament; and I do it with the greater ſatisfaction, as your diligent application to the public buſineſs has brought it to ſo happy a concluſion. On this occaſion I cannot but return you my hearty thanks for the many proofs you have given me of your zeal and affection for me and my government; and the care and attention which you have exerted for the intereſts of my people.

As Europe now enjoys a happy tranquillity, very little alteration has been made in the ſtate of foreign affairs ſince your meeting.

meeting. My resolution to preserve the general peace is the same; and I have the greatest reason to rely on the like good disposition in the powers in alliance with me, not only being continued, but confirmed and improved.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The readiness with which you have granted me the supplies for the service of the current year demands my particular acknowledgments; and the prudence and firmness you have shewn in completing the reduction of the interest of the national debt, is as agreeable to me as that measure is essential to the strength and welfare of my kingdom.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing to desire of you but effectually to consult your own true interest and happiness. Let it be your care to maintain in your several countries the public peace and good order, to encourage and promote a just reverence for government and law, and not to suffer those good laws which are enacted here, to lose their effect for want of a due execution.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the thirteenth day of August next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the thirteenth day of August next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, November 14, 1751.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is with great satisfaction that I meet you in Parliament at this time, when the continuance of the public tranquillity and the flourishing condition of my kingdoms leave us nothing to desire, but to secure and improve our present situation. To this end all my views and measures have been directed, both at home and abroad; and in this state of things, nothing can give me more real pleasure, than to observe those solid advantages which my good subjects reap from it in their trade and manufactures; some branches whereof have also received considerable benefit from the wise provisions which have been made by this Parliament.

The

The treaty lately entered into with the Elector of Bavaria was laid before you in your last session, and I then acquainted you that I was taking such further measures as might tend to secure the tranquillity of the empire, support its system, and timely prevent such events as had been found by experience to endanger the common cause. I have since, for the same purposes, in conjunction with the States General of the United Provinces, found it necessary to conclude a treaty with the King of Poland, Elector of Saxony, which shall be communicated to you.

The unfortunate event of the Prince of Orange's death has made no alteration in the state of affairs in Holland, and by the prudent and early measures taken there, the quiet of that country has been preserved, and their government carried on upon the foundation of the settlement which had with so much foresight been previously established by laws of the republic. I have received the strongest assurances from the States General of their firm resolution to maintain that strict union and friendship which so happily subsist between me and those ancient and natural allies of my crown.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered estimates of the expenses of the ensuing year to be prepared and laid before you; and have no other supplies to ask of you but such as are requisite for those services, and for making good such necessary engagements as you are made acquainted with. The success which has attended your firmness in reducing the interest of the national debt, will, I am confident, give you the greatest satisfaction.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The experience I have had of your dutiful and steady conduct makes it wholly unnecessary for me to press upon you unanimity and dispatch in your deliberations. But I cannot conclude without recommending it to you in the most earnest manner, to consider seriously of some effectual provisions to suppress those audacious crimes of robbery and violence which are now become so frequent, especially about this great capital, and which have proceeded in a great measure from that profligate spirit of irreligion, idleness, gaming, and extravagance, which has of late extended itself, in an uncommon degree, to the dishonour of the nation, and to the great offence and prejudice of the sober and industrious part of my people.

Address to his Majesty by the House of Lords, November 15, 1751.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, approach your throne with hearts full of that zeal and affection for your person and government, which become the most faithful subjects to the best of Kings.

We beg leave, in the first place, to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne, in which you have with so much goodness expressed your care of our welfare, and your delight in our happiness. Justice as well as gratitude calls upon us to acknowledge the inestimable blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's auspicious government; and that the continuance of the public tranquillity, the prosperous situation of your kingdoms, the flourishing condition of our commerce, and the opportunity which these circumstances have afforded for reducing the burden of the national interest, are, under the Divine protection, owing to the measures which your Majesty has pursued, both at home and abroad, for the true interest of your people.

We are fully sensible that those measures have not been restrained merely to present objects, but have been prudently extended to guard against future evils and dangers. In this light we consider the treaty lately concluded by your Majesty, with the King of Poland, Elector of Saxony; the good effects of which will, we hope, be fully answerable to your great and salutary views.

The death of the Prince of Orange, a prince so nearly allied to your Majesty, and of such importance to the common cause, has given us great concern; but it is a real satisfaction to us, that this unfortunate event has been attended with no ill consequence to the state of affairs in Holland, whose security and welfare we consider as intimately connected with our own. The support of that government, upon the settlement which had been before happily established, and the cordial assurances which your Majesty has received from the States General, gives us the greatest pleasure, and confirms us in that resolution which we have long adhered to, of mantaining and cultivating the strictest union and friendship with that protestant republic.

We acknowledge with all thankfulness the paternal regard which your Majesty has shewn for your people, in publicly declaring your just resentment against those audacious crimes of robbery and violence, which, in defiance of the laws, are now grown to such an excess, particularly in this part of the king-

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dom. We look upon them as a real nuisance and dishonour to the nation; and the increase of irreligion, idleness, gaming, and all kinds of licentiousness, has been long lamented by all good men, as the unhappy source of this and many other mischiefs. All considerations, both religious and political, call upon us to put a stop to these growing evils; and nothing shall be wanting, on our part, to enforce and strengthen the laws for punishing and suppressing all such wicked practices, and to prevent and remedy the pernicious causes of them. Permit us, at the same time, to give your Majesty the strongest assurances, that we are zealously determined, in all our deliberations, to contribute every thing in our power to the security and quiet of your Majesty's government, the happiness of your people, and the glory of your reign.

His Majesty's Answer, Nov. 15, 1751.

My Lords,

I THANK you very kindly for this dutiful and affectionate address. The satisfaction you shew in the measures I have taken both at home and abroad, for the preservation of the public peace, and for the advancement of the interests of my people, is very agreeable to me, and cannot fail of having a good effect for promoting those great and salutary views.

Address by the House of Commons, Nov. 15, 1751.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, humbly beg leave to return your Majesty our most hearty thanks for your Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us, Sir, with hearts full of gratitude, to express our lively and due sense of the happiness we enjoy under your Majesty's wise and just government, and our well-grounded confidence that your Majesty's views are and ever will be directed to no other end than to secure and improve the present flourishing condition of your kingdoms. The regard your Majesty is pleased to testify for the advancement of our trade and manufactures, as it is a signal instance of your Majesty's constant and universal attention to the welfare of your subjects, demands our sincerest acknowledgments. And it cannot but be matter of the highest satisfaction to us, that the provisions made for that purpose by this Parliament,

Parliament, in purſuance of your Majeſty's moſt gracious recommendation, have produced the deſired effect.

We unfeignedly aſſure your Majeſty that we will readily concur in all ſuch meaſures as tend to ſecure the ineſtimable bleſſings of peace to us, by eſtabliſhing more firmly the general tranquillity in Europe.

Affected with the deepeſt concern, we condole with your Majeſty on the unfortunate event of the death of the Prince of Orange; but at the ſame time beg leave to expreſs the great conſolation we feel from the ſtrong aſſurances given to your Majeſty on this occaſion by the States General of the United Provinces, which leave us no room to doubt of the continuance of that ſtrict union and friendſhip ſo eſſential to the intereſt of both countries.

Your faithful Commons with the utmoſt cheerfulneſs promiſe to grant to your Majeſty ſuch ſupplies as may enable your Majeſty to fulfil the engagements, and anſwer the ſeveral ſervices which ſhall be found neceſſary for the public good.

We cannot ſufficiently acknowledge your Majeſty's wiſdom and goodneſs in recommending to our conſideration the miſchiefs and diſhonour which ariſe to this nation from the audacious crimes of robbery and violence ſo notorious of late to all the world; and we humbly aſſure your Majeſty that we will ſeriouſly proceed in reviſing and enforcing ſuch laws as may contribute to ſuppreſs thoſe enormities, by diſcouraging irreligion, idleneſs, gaming, and immorality, by promoting induſtry, and eſtabliſhing good order amongſt your Majeſty's ſubjects.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 18, 1751.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you moſt heartily for this very affectionate addreſs.

Nothing can give me ſo great pleaſure as to ſee my people happy. It ſhall be my conſtant care, as far in me lies, to make them ſo.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, March 26, 1752.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT put an end to this ſeſſion of Parliament without returning you my hearty thanks for the great application and diſpatch with which you have gone through the public buſineſs. You have not only ſhewn your juſt ſatisfaction in the meaſures

I have purſued in foreign affairs, but have alſo given me your ſupport in carrying them on with that zeal and cheerfulneſs which I had reaſon to expect from ſo dutiful and affectionate a Parliament, who are entirely convinced that thoſe meaſures are calculated to maintain their own eſſential intereſts, and to render the preſent general peace durable and laſting.

The many laws now paſſed will, I hope, attain the good ends intended by them. Nothing that depends upon me ſhall be wanting to make them effectual; and particularly to execute in a right manner the proviſions made for civilizing and reducing into order, ſuch parts of the united kingdom where the want of knowledge, improvement, and due obedience to the laws had remarkably furniſhed opportunities to ſeduce the people from their loyalty.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

My particular thanks are due to you for the ſupplies you have ſo readily granted me. Your care to ſupport the reduction of the national intereſt, and to put great part of the debt into a method more convenient for the creditors as well as for the public, is a freſh inſtance of your attention to that important concern.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Nothing in this world can give me ſo much pleaſure as to ſee you a flouriſhing and happy people. Exert yourſelves in your ſeveral ſtations to do your parts, and you may depend on my unwearied endeavours to ſecure this great bleſſing to ourſelves, and tranſmit it to poſterity.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurſday, the fourth day of June next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the fourth day of June next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, Jan. 11, 1753.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE received ſo many proofs of the good affections and zeal of my people for my perſon and government, that every opportunity of meeting them in Parliament gives me a new ſatisfaction.

satisfaction. The maintenance of the general peace, already happily established, is so desirable for all Europe that all my views and negotiations have been entirely calculated and directed to preserve it, and secure its duration. I am still proceeding, and shall continue to act upon the same principle, nothing being capable of giving me so much comfort as that my good subjects may long enjoy the happy fruits of the present tranquillity. I have the satisfaction to be assured of a good disposition in all the powers in alliance with me to adhere to the same salutary object; and the measures which have been taken in different parts of Europe for that purpose, cannot fail to give additional strength and solidity to the provisions made by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The estimates for the current year shall be laid before you by my order. I have no supplies to ask of you, but what shall be necessary for the ordinary services, and such as have been already communicated to you, and for the security of the nation and the support of its trade and commerce, on which the essential interests of this kingdom depend. I must at the same time earnestly recommend the continuance of your attention to the reduction of the national debt, the improvement of the public revenue, and augmenting the sinking fund.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I hope you will find that the laws made last session of Parliament for suppressing those crimes and disorders which have been so justly complained of, have had a good effect. Whatsoever is further necessary to perfect so laudable a work deserves your serious consideration; that whilst we enjoy peace abroad, we may maintain good order and regularity at home. My hearty concurrence and endeavours shall never be wanting in any thing that may promote your welfare and prosperity.

Address to his Majesty by the House of Lords, Jan. 12, 1753.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Your Majesty's paternal care of your people, in establishing the peace, can receive no addition but from your constant and vigilant endeavours to preserve to them the happy fruits of it.

Whilst we gratefully remember the one, and feel the good effects of the other, we do, with the justest confidence, rely on your Majesty's experienced wisdom and goodness, in directing all your views and negotiations to that desirable end.

It gives us great satisfaction to be informed from the throne of the good disposition of all the powers in alliance with your Majesty to maintain the present tranquillity. Convinced that this is the real interest of the other nations of Europe, as well as our own, we rejoice in every event that may give strength and solidity to the provisions made by the general definitive treaty. We are deeply sensible that nothing can so much contribute to these purposes, as the influence of your Majesty and the crown of Great Britain: and we beg leave to assure you of our resolution and earnestness to strengthen your Majesty's hands, and so far as depends upon us, to add weight to your measures to render the peace durable, for the common good of Europe, the lasting benefit of your own kingdoms, and the security of our commerce and navigation; the support and advancement whereof we consider as the great source and solid basis of our riches and strength.

Your Majesty's concern for our domestic happiness appears in nothing more than in so graciously recommending to your Parliament the salutary work of maintaining good order and regularity amongst the people. We look upon it as essential to the national happiness; and as the most likely means not only to entitle us to your Majesty's gracious approbation, but to draw down upon us the protection of the Divine Providence.

To repeat only our solemn assurances of unfeigned gratitude for the inestimable blessings we enjoy under your auspicious government, would not sufficiently express the warmth of those sentiments which we feel in our hearts. Our loyalty, duty, and affection to your sacred person, are raised to the greatest height: and our zeal for the ease, prosperity, and true glory of your reign, and for perpetuating the succession to this crown, which you wear with so much lustre, in a race of princes descended from yourself, is incapable of any addition.

His Majesty's Answer, January 12, 1753.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my thanks for this very loyal and dutiful address. Nothing can give me greater satisfaction than these solemn assurances of the continuance of your zeal and affection for my person, family, and government. I firmly

rely on your ſupport, and you may depend on my hearty concern for your true intereſts.

Addreſs to his Majeſty by the Houſe of Commons, Jan. 12, 1753.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, humbly beg leave to return your Majeſty our hearty thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne; and to congratulate your Majeſty upon your ſafe and happy arrival in this kingdom.

Permit us, Sir, to expreſs our ſincere joy, that the dutiful conduct of your Majeſty's faithful Commons has been rewarded with your royal approbation, and to aſſure your Majeſty of the continuance of that zeal and affection for your perſon and government, which your Majeſty's conſtant attention to the happineſs of your people ſo juſtly demands.

We muſt ever acknowledge your Majeſty's wiſdom as well as goodneſs, in purſuing ſuch meaſures as may beſt contribute to maintain and render permanent the general tranquillity in Europe: and ſuffer us, Sir, at the ſame time to declare our ſatisfaction at the aſſurances which your Majeſty has received from your allies, of their good diſpoſition to adhere to the ſame ſalutary object.

Your faithful Commons, with the trueſt zeal and duty, promiſe your Majeſty to raiſe with cheerfulneſs, unanimity, and diſpatch, ſuch ſupplies as ſhall be found neceſſary for the ſecurity of the nation, and the ſupport of its trade and commerce, ſo eſſential to the well-being of this country.

We cannot ſufficiently teſtify our grateful ſenſe of your Majeſty's provident concern for the welfare of this nation, in recommending again to our attention the leſſening of the national debt; and do aſſure your Majeſty, that we will take into our ſerious conſideration the beſt means to improve the public revenue, whereby the heavy load of our debts may be put in a method of being gradually reduced, and the national credit, already in a flouriſhing condition, be firmly eſtabliſhed.

We further beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that whilſt we reflect with gratitude upon the bleſſings of peace abroad, and enjoy the daily fruits of the continuance of it, we will not be wanting in our endeavours to preſerve good order and regularity at home; happy in this conviction, that from the whole tenor of your Majeſty's auſpicious reign, we are ſure of your Ma-

jesty's hearty concurrence in every measure which may tend to promote the true interests and prosperity of your people.

His Majesty's Answer, January 15, 1753.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you most heartily for this very affectionate address. Your zeal for the good of the public, and for my government, cannot but afford me the highest satisfaction. My chief concern will always be the happiness of my people.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 7, 1753.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE season of the year is so far advanced, and the business before you so entirely finished, that it is necessary to put an end to this session of Parliament: the zeal which you have shewn for my person and government in all your proceedings, calls for my sincere thanks; and the care and assiduity you have exerted in making such provisions as may advance the commerce of my subjects, supply and extend their manufactures, and put a stop to some disorders that required reformation, are no less agreeable to me, than they are proofs of your prudence in laying hold of this time of tranquillity to make domestic improvements.

The state of foreign affairs has received no material alteration since your meeting; you may depend on my steadily pursuing the same principles and ends which I then declared to you, to preserve the peace, to consult the real prosperity of my people, and at the same time to assert and maintain the honour and just rights of my crown and kingdoms, are the fixed objects of all my measures.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

In granting the supplies for the current year, you have equally shewn your concern for the public service, and your regard to the ease of your fellow-subjects. I thank you for both, as well as for providing with so much foresight for the future augmentation of the sinking fund.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing to desire of you but what I am persuaded you wish for yourselves. Do your utmost endeavours in your several

veral countries to promote the true intereſt and happineſs of my people; to propagate induſtry, and to preſerve good order and regularity amongſt them; make them ſenſible of the bleſſings they enjoy, and by theſe means the quiet and ſecurity of my government will be beſt eſtabliſhed.

And afterwards the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tueſday, the fourteenth day of Auguſt next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tueſday, the fourteenth day of Auguſt next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, November 15, 1753.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE called you together as early as your attendance upon your private affairs would admit; and I am confident that you are all met with the beſt diſpoſitions, to give ſuch application and diſpatch to the buſineſs of this ſeſſion, as may be moſt conducive to the public utility. The events of this year have not made it neceſſary for me to offer any thing in particular to your conſideration relating to foreign affairs. The continuance of the public tranquillity, and the general ſtate of Europe, remain upon the ſame foot as when we laſt parted; and you may be aſſured of my ſteadineſs in purſuing the moſt effectual meaſures to preſerve to my people the bleſſings of peace.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have nothing to aſk of you, but the neceſſary ſupplies for the ordinary ſervices of the enſuing year, and ſuch as have already been under your conſideration. I have ordered eſtimates to be laid before you; and from the experience I have had of your conſtant regard for my honour, and the ſecurity as well as eaſe of your fellow-ſubjects, I entertain no doubt of your making the proper proviſions for theſe purpoſes.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am ſorry to be obliged again to mention to you a ſubject which reflects diſhonour upon the nation, as well as creates great danger and miſchief to my good ſubjects. It is with the

utmoſt regret I obſerve, that the horrid crimes of robbery and murder are of late rather increaſed than diminiſhed. I am ſenſible that works of reformation are not to be effected at once; but every body ſhould contribute their beſt endeavours: and let me earneſtly recommend it to you, to continue your ſerious attention to this important object. Whatſoever ſhall be found expedient, either in this or any other reſpect, for the welfare and happineſs of my people, ſhall meet with my hearty concurrence and ſupport.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, Nov. 16, 1753.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Every opportunity of approaching your ſacred perſon furniſhes us with new matter for acknowledging your Majeſty's conſtant and unwearied attention to the welfare of your kingdoms; which is in no inſtance more conſpicuous, than in your vigilance to preſerve to them the bleſſings of peace. Our juſt confidence in your Majeſty's purſuing the moſt effectual meaſures for this purpoſe, is equal to thoſe grateful ſentiments with which our hearts are filled on this occaſion. The honour and ſecurity of the nation both at home and abroad, the maintenance of our religion and liberty, the protection and extenſion of our commerce, and every branch of the national happineſs, are the objects of your royal care, wiſely and ſteadily exerted for the common good of your people.

It gives us the utmoſt concern, that it ſhould be neceſſary for your Majeſty again to take notice of the increaſe of thoſe horrid crimes of robbery and murder, which are arrived at ſo great a height. We are duly ſenſible that your Majeſty's juſtice is never wanting to protect the innocent and puniſh the guilty; and it ſhall be our conſtant endeavour to inforce, and add vigour to the laws for bringing ſuch audacious and obſtinate offenders to puniſhment. Your Majeſty, like a true father to your people, has often graciouſly recommended to us the ſalutary work of reformation; which, though it proceeds too ſlowly, we will not fail to promote to the utmoſt of our power.

Nothing ſhall be wanting on our part to anſwer your Majeſty's juſt expectations, that the public utility ſhall be our rule in carrying on the buſineſs of this ſeſſion. And we humbly entreat

entreat your Majesty to accept our strongest assurances, that as the continuance of your precious life is the subject of our ardent wishes and prayers; so the support of your government, the glory of your auspicious reign, and the preservation of the protestant succession in your royal family, are and shall be the invariable principles and aim of our conduct.

His Majesty's Answer, November 16, 1753.

My Lords,

NOTHING can be more agreeable to me than this very dutiful and affectionate address. I thank you for it: and as my great aim is your lasting prosperity, be assured that the confidence you repose in me shall be made use of for the honour and true interest of the nation.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 16, 1753.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

And we assure your Majesty, that we will not fail on our parts to give such application and dispatch to the business of this session as may be most conducive to the public utility.

The happy continuance of the general tranquillity calls upon us to express our gratitude to your Majesty for your constant attention to an object so essential to the interest of your people; and we have the utmost confidence in your Majesty's wisdom and steadiness, that you will pursue the most effectual measures for preserving to this nation the inestimable blessings of peace.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we will cheerfully raise such supplies as shall be found necessary for the services of the ensuing year.

Nothing can be more pleasing to your faithful Commons, than to receive fresh marks of your Majesty's gracious approbation of our past zeal and regard for your honour, as well as for the security and ease of our fellow-subjects.

We lament, with the deepest concern, that the methods hitherto attempted to repress and prevent the horrid crimes of robbery and murder, so grievous as well as dishonourable to this nation, have proved ineffectual; but we assure your Majesty, that

that however difficult the task may be to reform or even restrain the desperate and abandoned, we will nevertheless persevere in our serious endeavours to provide, if it be possible, a more adequate remedy against such enormities; being fully persuaded, from an uninterrupted experience of your Majesty's goodness, that we shall be assisted by your Majesty's concurrence and support in every measure that shall be found expedient in this, or any other respect, for the welfare and happiness of your people.

His Majesty's Answer, November 19, 1753.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this dutiful and affectionate address.

You may firmly rely on my best endeavours to promote, on all occasions, the true interests and happiness of my people.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, April 6, 1754.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

NOTHING could have given me greater satisfaction at this time than the unanimity and dispatch with which you have gone through the business of this session. Though no particular point of extraordinary moment hath offered itself to your consideration, yet you have shewn the most attentive regard to every branch of the public service. As to foreign affairs I shall say nothing at present, except that it is my fixed resolution to do every thing in my power to maintain the general tranquillity, and to adhere to such measures for that purpose, as I have hitherto pursued in conjunction with the powers in alliance with me.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my hearty thanks for the supplies which you have so cheerfully granted; and which are the more acceptable to me, as they have brought no new burden upon my good subjects.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The time draws near when the present Parliament must determine by law; and it is my intention very speedily to call a new one: but it would be unjust to this, not to give it a public testimony of my approbation. The many eminent proofs which you have given of your duty and affection to my person and government, of your zeal for this excellent constitution,

and

and for the security of the present establishment, can never be forgotten by me. By your vigorous assistance, under the protection of the Divine Providence, I was enabled to put an end to an expensive though necessary war, by an honourable peace; which you have greatly contributed to preserve by readily and uniformly supporting my measures. You have gone further; and, whilst the difficulties arising from the war were scarce over, seized the first opportunity to perfect one of the greatest works of peace, by concurring in the most proper means for a gradual decrease of the national debt, and at the same time raising the public credit. You have also, by several new laws, laid a foundation to strengthen and advance the trade and commerce of my kingdoms. Such a series of wise and steady conduct cannot fail to recommend you to the good-will and esteem of your fellow-subjects, as well as mine. For my own part, I securely rely upon the loyalty and good affections of my people, and have no other aim but their lasting happiness.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of this instant April, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of this instant April.

Speech by the Speaker of the House of Commons, June 1, 1754.

My Lords,

HIS Majesty's faithful Commons, in Parliament assembled, have, in pursuance of his royal direction, and according to their ancient right, proceeded to the election of one of their members to be their Speaker in this Parliament; and their choice has again fallen upon me for this great trust.

From what has passed in several former Parliaments with regard to myself, I did not presume to dispute the commands of the Commons upon this occasion: it is for the same reasons, and from the like principle of duty, I forbear to urge any thing here against their present resolution, but resign myself entirely to his Majesty's pleasure; well knowing his own royal wisdom can have best determined his own choice, either to approve or disapprove what his Commons have now done.

Then

Then the Lord Chancellor faid,

Mr. ONSLOW,

THE King has had fuch ample and fatisfactory experience of your great abilities and zeal for the fervice of himfelf and your country, in the important ftation to which you are now a fifth time called by the general voice of his faithful Commons, that his Majefty has commanded us to let you know, that he entirely approves the choice which his Commons have made: and we do, by virtue of his Majefty's commiffion, and in his name, allow and confirm you to be their Speaker.

Then Mr. Speaker faid,

My Lords,

SINCE his Majefty has been pleafed to approve the choice the Commons have made of me to be their Speaker, it becomes me to fubmit to his royal determination, and to receive, with all humility and thankfulnefs, this frefh inftance of his royal grace and favour to me; and for my encouragement therein, I have an humble hope of the continuance of his pardon of my failings and infirmities in it; at leaft, that they will not in any wife be imputed by his Majefty to his faithful Commons: and that they may be the better enabled to perform their duty to his Majefty and their country, I do, in their name and on their behalf, by humble petition to his Majefty, lay claim to all their ancient rights and privileges; particularly that they, their fervants and eftates, may be free from arrefts and all other moleftations—that they may enjoy freedom of fpeech in their debates, and have accefs to his royal perfon, as occafion may require—and that all their proceedings may receive from his Majefty the moft favourable conftruction.

Then the Lord Chancellor faid,

Mr. Speaker,

WE have it in command from the King to acquaint you; that his Majefty is fully perfuaded of the prudence and temper of this Houfe of Commons, as well as of their loyalty and duty.

And we do, by virtue of his Majefty's commiffion, and in his name, declare to you, that the King grants and allows to them all

all their privileges, in as full and ample manner as they have at any time heretofore been granted or allowed by his Majesty, or any of his royal predecessors.

As to what you, Sir, have desired on your own behalf, the King has never, through a long course of years, had any reason to apprehend that you can stand in need of such an indulgence; but his Majesty has commanded us to assure you of his gracious support in the discharge of your great and arduous trust; and that he will put the most favourable construction both upon your words and actions.

Speech of the Lords Commissioners to both Houses of Parliament, June 1, 1754.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN pursuance of the authority given us by his Majesty's commission under the great seal, amongst other things, to declare the causes of your present meeting, we are by the King's command to acquaint you, that his Majesty has been graciously pleased to give you this early opportunity of coming together, in order that certain parliamentary proceedings may be gone through, which his Majesty judges it will be for the satisfaction of his good subjects to have completed without loss of time.

His Majesty does not think proper now to lay before you any points of general business, reserving every thing of that nature to the usual time of your assembling in the winter. But we are expresly directed to assure you, that his Majesty has the greatest confidence in the duty and good affections of this Parliament for his royal person, family, and government, and in their zeal for the true interest of their country; of which he doubts not to find the best effects.

We have nothing further in command from his Majesty, except to recommend to you, as well for the public convenience as your own, to give the utmost dispatch to what is at present necessary to come under your consideration.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, November 14, 1754.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is with great pleasure that I meet you in Parliament at a time when the late elections have afforded my people an opportunity of giving fresh proofs of their duty and affection to

my

my perſon and government in the choice of their repreſentatives.

The general ſtate of affairs in Europe has received very little alteration ſince your laſt meeting. But I have the ſatisfaction to acquaint you, that I have lately received the ſtrongeſt aſſurances from my good brother the King of Spain, of his firm reſolution to cultivate friendſhip and confidence with me, with reciprocal acts of harmony and good faith; and that he will perſevere in theſe ſentiments. It ſhall be my principal view, as well to ſtrengthen the foundations, and ſecure the duration of the general peace, as to improve the preſent advantages of it, for promoting the trade of my good ſubjects, and protecting thoſe poſſeſſions, which make one great ſource of our commerce and wealth.

The plan formed by the laſt Parliament for appropriating the forfeited eſtates in the Highlands to the public benefit, appears to be of ſuch national importance, that I am perſuaded you will not omit any proper opportunity of completeing it. Let me alſo recommend it to you, to make ſuch further proviſions as may be expedient for perpetuating the due execution of the laws, and the juſt authority of my government in that part of the united kingdom.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the eſtimates for the enſuing year to be prepared and laid before you. The ſupplies which I have to aſk of you are ſuch as ſhall be neceſſary for the ordinary ſervices; for the execution of ſuch treaties as have been communicated to you, for conſolidating and maintaining that ſyſtem of tranquillity which is my great object; and, at the ſame time, for ſecuring ourſelves againſt any encroachments.

The gradual reduction of the national debt, which has been ſo wiſely and ſucceſsfully begun, will, I make no doubt, have your ſerious and conſtant attention.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is unneceſſary for me to uſe any arguments to preſs upon you unanimity and diſpatch in your proceedings. I have had ſuch ample experience of the fidelity, zeal, and good diſpoſition of my Parliaments, during the courſe of my reign, that I truſt there is a mutual confidence eſtabliſhed between us; the ſureſt pledge of my own and my people's happineſs.

Addreſs

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Nov. 15, 1754.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We are truly sensible of your Majesty's wise and public-spirited views to strengthen the foundations, and secure the duration of the general peace, in which every part of Europe is so nearly interested. And nothing can excite our warmest gratitude more than that concern which you are pleased to express, that the advantages of this peace may be rendered lasting to your people, by promoting their commerce, and protecting those possessions which are so essential to it; and are an object of the public care, never to be departed from by this country.

The friendly assurances which your Majesty has lately received from the King of Spain, give us great satisfaction; as we promise ourselves that they will be followed with very salutary effects for advancing the important ends already mentioned, in which both nations will find a reciprocal benefit.

Your Majesty's goodness to your people, in consenting to apply the forfeited estates in the Highlands to those public uses to which they stand appropriated by the last Parliament, will always be thankfully remembered by us. We shall, with the greatest readiness, concur in any provisions that may render that measure as perfect and useful as possible, for improving that part of the united kingdom, and preserving its tranquillity.

The enforcing the due course and execution of the laws, and securing the authority of your Majesty's government there, of which those laws have always been the rule, are one and the same object, which will not fail to meet with our constant attention.

Permit us, Sir, to take this opportunity to renew the most solemn assurances of our inviolable fidelity and affection to your sacred person and government. In this, our duty and our interest unite and are inseparable. Our resolution is fixed and unalterable, to strengthen your Majesty's hands for preserving the peace; supporting the honour of your crown; and maintaining the rights and possessions of your kingdoms against any encroachments. The maxim graciously laid down by your Majesty, that a mutual confidence between you and your Parliament is the surest pledge of the happiness both of King and people, is highly worthy a British monarch; and it shall be our zealous endeavour, to demonstrate to the world the stability of

that confidence; and, under the protection of the Divine Providence, to transmit to our posterity the blessings of your Majesty's reign, in the perpetuity of the protestant succession in your royal house.

His Majesty's Answer, November 15, 1754.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address.

The zeal you express for my person and government, and for maintaining the rights and possessions of my crown, cannot fail to have the best effects, both at home and abroad. The confidence which you repose in me, shall always be made use of for the true interest of my people.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 16, 1754.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our unfeigned thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne; and to assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons will gladly embrace every opportunity of testifying their inviolable attachment and duty to your royal person, family, and government.

It gives us the greatest satisfaction to find that the wise measures your Majesty has pursued for strengthening and securing the general peace, have been attended with so explicit a declaration on the part of the King of Spain, of his resolution to cultivate friendship and confidence with your Majesty.

We acknowledge, with the highest sense of gratitude, your Majesty's constant and uniform endeavours for the preservation of the public tranquillity, at the same time that your Majesty has not suffered your attention to be diverted from the necessary consideration of self-defence; and we assure your Majesty, that we will support your Majesty, and cheerfully grant such supplies as may give weight and efficacy to your Majesty's measures for the preservation of the general peace, and enable your Majesty to vindicate your just rights and possessions from all encroachments.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that nothing shall be wanting on our parts to complete and render effectual to the common benefit of the united kingdom, that salutary plan, formed

formed by the laſt Parliament, for appropriating the forfeited eſtates in the Highlands to the uſes of the public; and we aſſure your Majeſty, that the gradual reduction of the national debt, and the improvement of trade and commerce, ſo eſſential to the ſtrength and power of this kingdom, ſhall be the objects of our ſerious and conſtant attention.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 18, 1754.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my thanks for your moſt dutiful and loyal addreſs.

So early and unanimous a mark of the truſt and confidence which my faithful Commons repoſe in me, gives me the greateſt ſatisfaction.

You may rely on the continuance of my endeavours to preſerve the public tranquillity, to aſſert and vindicate the juſt rights and poſſeſſions of my ſubjects, and to do every thing on my part, which can render this nation happy and flouriſhing both at home and abroad.

The humble Addreſs of the Archbiſhop, Biſhops, and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation aſſembled; preſented to his Majeſty on Tueſday, the twenty-ſixth Day of November, 1754.

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Archbiſhop, Biſhops, and Clergy of the province of Canterbury, in Convocation aſſembled, beg leave to take this opportunity of our being convened by your royal command, to repeat the moſt cordial aſſurances of our inviolable duty and fidelity to your ſacred perſon.

We have a ſtrong and grateful ſenſe of the happineſs we have enjoyed during the whole courſe of your Majeſty's reign; under which the obedience of your ſubjects, and particularly of your faithful clergy, has, by the goodneſs of your Majeſty, been rendered a moſt eaſy duty.

Your Majeſty has made the laws and conſtitution the rule of your juſt and equal government; and is never better pleaſed than when the ſame laws appear to be the meaſure of your people's loyalty.

The gracious aſſurances which your Majeſty has ſo often given, and ſo religiouſly obſerved, that you would ſupport the

church of England, as by law eſtabliſhed, not only lay us under the higheſt obligations to your Majeſty, but call upon us alſo to ſhew our thankfulneſs to God for ſo great and powerful a protector: and we are convinced how much it is incumbent upon us to demonſtrate to the world, by our doctrines and examples, that the proteſtant church of England has not its equal, for the purity of its faith, the wiſdom of its conſtitution, the decent regularity of its worſhip, a ſteady and well-grounded zeal againſt the corruptions of popery, its loyalty and affection to its governors, and moderation and candour to thoſe who have the misfortune to diſſent from it.

Such is the ſpirit of our eſtabliſhment: and in forming our conduct by it, we acquit ourſelves of our duty to God, and to our country; and render ourſelves as acceptable, as we are invariably faithful, to your Majeſty, and your illuſtrious houſe.

We ſee and lament the depravity of our times, evidenced beyond all former examples, not only by flagitious actions, but by the publication of writings, which ſtrike at the very vitals of all religion, and ſhake the foundations of civil government. We engage ourſelves to your Majeſty, that we will exert ourſelves to the utmoſt to maintain the honour of our moſt holy faith, by inſtilling the principles, and urging the great motives of it upon the conſciences of men: by theſe means doing all in our power to preſerve the peace and proſperity of the public, and ſtrengthen the hands of the magiſtrate in the execution of thoſe good laws, which have been formed with ſo much wiſdom againſt irreligion, profaneneſs, and diſſoluteneſs of manners.

Give us leave, Sir, to add our moſt ardent prayers to God, that he would extend your Majeſty's days to the longeſt period of human life; that he would bleſs and proſper all the branches of your royal family; and that, under a line of princes derived from yourſelf, this nation may be as ſecure, in future times, from the miſchiefs of licentiouſneſs, as it has been, under your Majeſty's auſpicious government, from the danger of oppreſſion.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 26, 1754.

My Lords, and the reſt of the Clergy,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and affectionate addreſs. The zeal you expreſs againſt the increaſe of immorality, and the publication of impious writings, is highly commendable, and gives me great ſatisfaction.

It ſhall be my conſtant care, to diſcourage licentiouſneſs and infidelity; to ſupport the church of England, as by law eſtabliſhed.

blished; and to protect all my subjects in the full enjoyment of their rights, both religious and civil.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Lords, March 26, 1755.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty having at the beginning of this session declared, that his principal object was to preserve the public tranquillity, and, at the same time, to protect those possessions, which make one great source of the commerce and wealth of his kingdoms; now finds it necessary to acquaint the House of Lords, that the present situation of affairs makes it requisite to augment his forces by sea and land; and to take such other measures as may best tend to preserve the general peace of Europe, and to secure the just rights and possessions of his crown in America; as well as to repel any attempts whatsoever, that may be made to support or countenance any designs which may be formed against his Majesty and his kingdoms: and his Majesty doubts not, but he shall have the concurrence and support of this house (on whose affection and zeal he entirely relies) in making such augmentations, and taking such measures, for the support of the honour of his crown, and the true interests of his people, and for the security of his dominions, in the present critical conjuncture, as the exigency of affairs may require: in doing which, his Majesty will have as much regard to the ease of his good subjects, as shall be consistent with their safety and welfare.

G. R.

Address by the House of Lords, March 26, 1755.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious message.

Nothing can more clearly demonstrate your Majesty's paternal concern for the welfare and prosperity of your people, than the royal care and firm resolution which you have had the goodness to repeat to us, to maintain the just rights and possessions of your crown against all encroachments, and to protect the commerce of your kingdoms.

The preservation of the public peace is an object which your Majesty, out of your benevolent disposition for the good of your faithful subjects, as well as of mankind in general, will

always have at heart; and we thankfully acknowledge your great wisdom in taking the most vigorous and effectual measures to prevent the infraction of it.

Duty and affection to your Majesty, zeal for your royal person, family, and government, have always been the great motives of our conduct. Warmed with these sentiments, and unalterably fixed in the same principles, we are fully convinced of what high importance it is, to strengthen your Majesty's hands in the present situation of affairs.

And we do, from the bottom of our hearts, assure your Majesty, that we will cheerfully and vigorously support your Majesty, in making such augmentations of your forces, by sea and land, and in taking such other measures, as events may make necessary, for maintaining the honour, rights, and possessions of your crown, and the true interests of your people, and for the security of your dominions, and that we will stand by and assist your Majesty, in repelling any attempts whatsoever that may be made to support or countenance any designs which may be formed against your Majesty and your kingdoms.

His Majesty's Answer, March 26, 1755.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this affectionate address. Nothing shall be wanting on my part that may tend to the effectual support of the just rights and possessions of my crown, and of the true interests of my people. The confidence which you repose in me shall always be made use of with the strictest regard to those great and important objects.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, April 25, 1755.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE many eminent proofs which you have given of your duty and affection to my person and government, during the course of this session of Parliament, have afforded me the greatest satisfaction; and the zeal you have shewn for supporting the honour, rights, and possessions of my crown, has been no less agreeable to me.

My desire to preserve the public tranquillity has been sincere and uniform. I have religiously adhered to the stipulations of Aix-la-Chapelle; and made it my care not to injure or give just cause of offence to any power whatsoever; but I never could entertain a thought of purchasing the name of peace at the expense of suffering encroachments upon, or of yielding up, what

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is juſtly belonging to Great Britain, either by ancient poſſeſſion, or by ſolemn treaties. Your vigour and firmneſs, on this important occaſion, have enabled me to be prepared for ſuch contingencies as may happen. If reaſonable and honourable terms of accommodation can be agreed upon, I ſhall be ſatisfied. In all events, I ſhall rely on the juſtice of our cauſe, the effectual ſupport of my people, and the protection of the Divine Providence.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I return you my thanks for the neceſſary proviſions you have made for the ſervice of the current year. The extraordinary ſupply which you have granted me, towards augmenting my forces by ſea and land, is ſuch a proof of your confidence in me, and of your conſtant attention to the ſervice of your country, that I cannot ſufficiently expreſs the ſatiſfaction I take in this reaſonable care of the ſafety of my kingdoms and dominions, or in the evidence it has produced of the extent of our public credit, and of the zeal of my ſubjects, in this conjuncture.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing to deſire of you, but ſteadily to purſue thoſe good principles, which you have ſo ſolemnly profeſſed to me, and with ſo much honour to yourſelves adhered to. Let it be your endeavour to maintain tranquillity and good order in your ſeveral countries, and to cultivate in my good ſubjects juſt notions of my government and meaſures, which are, and ſhall always be, directed to their happineſs and proſperity.

And afterwards the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tueſday, the twenty-ſeventh day of May next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tueſday, the twenty-ſeventh day of May next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, November 13, 1755.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE preſent critical conjuncture of affairs, and my conſtant inclination to have the advice and aſſiſtance of my Parliament on all important occaſions, have made me deſirous to meet you here as early as poſſible.

Since your laſt ſeſſion, I have taken ſuch meaſures as might be moſt conducive to the protection of our poſſeſſions in America, and to the regaining of ſuch parts thereof, as had been encroached upon, or invaded, in violation of the peace, and contrary to the faith of the moſt ſolemn treaties.

For this purpoſe, the maritime force of this kingdom has been got ready with the utmoſt application and expedition, and been principally employed; ſome land forces have been ſent from hence to North America; and all proper encouragement has been given to the ſeveral colonies there, to exert themſelves in their own defence, and in the maintenance of the rights and poſſeſſions of Great Britain.

With a ſincere deſire to preſerve my people from the calamities of war, as well as to prevent, in the midſt of theſe troubles, a general war from being lighted up in Europe, I have been always ready to accept reaſonable and honourable terms of accommodation; but none ſuch have hitherto been propoſed on the part of France. I have alſo confined my views and operations to hinder France from making new encroachments, or ſupporting thoſe already made; to exert our right to a ſatisfaction for hoſtilities committed in a time of profound peace; and to diſappoint ſuch deſigns, as, from various appearances and preparations, there is reaſon to think, have been formed againſt my kingdoms and dominions.

By theſe methods I have purſued the plan which I formerly pointed out to you, and for which I had the ſatisfaction to receive the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of your vigorous ſupport.

What other power can object to proceedings ſo abſolutely neceſſary to our own defence and ſecurity? my good brother, the King of Spain, ſees with concern theſe differences; and the part which he generouſly takes in the common welfare of Europe, makes him earneſtly wiſh the preſervation of the public tranquillity. He has alſo given aſſurances, that he will continue in the ſame pacific ſentiments.

In purſuing theſe great ends, I make no doubt of the vigorous and cheerful ſupport of my Parliament; and that, whilſt I am engaged in this juſt and national cauſe, the affectionate aſſurances which they gave me the laſt ſeſſion will be effectually made good. In conſequence thereof, I have greatly increaſed my naval armaments; augmented my land forces in ſuch a manner as might be the leaſt burthenſome; and have concluded a treaty with the Empreſs of Ruſſia, and another with the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, which ſhall be laid before you.

Gentlemen

Gentlemen of the Houfe of Commons,

I have ordered the proper officers to lay before you eftimates for the fervice of the enfuing year, and likewife accounts of the extraordinary expenfes which have been made this year in purfuance of the power given me by Parliament. I fee, with great concern, that the neceffary fervices before mentioned will require large fupplies. I afk only fuch as fhall be requifite for the effectual carrying on of thofe meafures which fhall be neceffary to fupport what has been begun, according to your inclination, for the fecurity of my kingdoms and dominions, and for the purpofes which have been already mentioned to you. Whatever you grant, fhall, with the ftricteft œconomy, be applied to thofe ufes only for which it fhall be given.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I rely upon your duty and good affections, which I have fo often experienced. There never was a fituation in which my honour, and the effential interefts of Great Britain, called more ftrongly for your zeal, unanimity, and difpatch.

Addrefs to his Majefty by the Houfe of Lords, Nov. 14, 1755.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Lords fpiritual and temporal, in Parliament affembled, humbly beg leave to return your Majefty our unfeigned thanks for your moft gracious fpeech from the throne.

Your Majefty's paternal regard for the welfare and profperity of your people, which has been fo confpicuous on all occafions, has, in this critical conjuncture, been demonftrated by your Majefty's earneft defire to preferve them from the calamities of war, and by your royal firmnefs, in not yielding to any terms of accommodation that were not reafonable and honourable.

When we confider the high importance of the Britifh poffeffions and rights in America to the commerce and well-being of thefe kingdoms, we cannot but reflect with concern, as well as refentment, that, in a time of full peace, and contrary to the faith of the moft folemn treaties, fo many encroachments fhould have been committed on the part of France. Nothing can exceed our furprife at fuch a conduct, but our gratitude to your Majefty, for fo powerfully exerting your royal care to protect your colonies from fuch invafions and infults, and to redrefs thofe encroachments which had been fo unjuftly made.

If any power could be so much mistaken, as to imagine that your Majesty, or your Parliament, would remain unactive spectators of such unprovoked hostilities, they must before now have been convinced of their error.

We thankfully acknowledge your Majesty's wisdom and goodness in increasing your maritime armaments with so great application and expedition, and in augmenting your land forces with so much regard to the ease of your people, whilst you were providing for their safety; and in having, at the same time, generously given encouragement to that great body of your Majesty's brave and faithful subjects, with which your American provinces happily abound, to exert their strength on this important occasion, as their duty, interest, and common danger, oblige, and strongly call upon them to do.

Your Majesty has sufficiently shewn, that no motives of ambition, or of fomenting new troubles, have been the grounds of your conduct. Your prudence and magnanimity have been manifested to all the world, by your evident disposition to prevent a general war from breaking out in Europe, and by confining your views and operations to those salutary and necessary ends, which your Majesty has been graciously pleased to declare to us.

It is with pleasure we observe the pacific declarations of his Catholic Majesty, which are so agreeable to the amity and good correspondence subsisting between the two crowns, and to the general welfare of Europe.

We should fall short of that duty which we owe to your Majesty and our country, if we did not, with the greatest sincerity and cheerfulness, promise your Majesty our most zealous and vigorous concurrence and assistance in this just and national cause. Nothing shall be wanting, on our part, to make good those solemn assurances which were given to your Majesty by your Parliament in their last session. We look upon ourselves as obliged by the strongest ties of duty, gratitude, and honour, to stand by and support your Majesty in all such wise and necessary measures and engagements, as your Majesty may have taken in vindication of the rights of your crown; or to defeat any attempt which may be made by France in resentment for such measures; and to assist your Majesty in disappointing or repelling all such enterprises as may be formed, not only against your kingdoms, but also against any other of your dominions, although not belonging to the crown of Great Britain, in case they should be attacked on account of the part which your Majesty has taken for maintaining the essential interests of your kingdoms.

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Animated with these great and interesting considerations, we beg leave, from the bottom of our hearts, to assure your Majesty of our inviolable duty and affection to your sacred person; and that we look upon the preservation of your Majesty's government, and of the protestant succession in your royal house, as the only security, under God, of our religion and liberties. If there are any who have vainly flattered themselves, that menacing appearances or preparations could deter us from faithfully and vigorously acting up to these principles, our unshaken conduct shall demonstrate how much they have been deceived; and that, though we are far from desiring to injure or molest any of our neighbours, we are ready to sacrifice our lives and fortunes in the defence of your Majesty, and of the possessions, commerce, and just rights of Great Britain.

His Majesty's Answer, November 14, 1755.

My Lords,

I GIVE you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address. I see, with the greatest satisfaction, the zeal you express for my person and government, and for the true interest of your country which I am determined to adhere to. The assurances you give me for the defence of my territories abroad, are a strong proof of your affection to me, and regard for my honour. Nothing shall divert me from pursuing those measures which may effectually maintain the possessions and rights of my kingdoms, and procure reasonable and honourable terms of accommodation.

Address to his Majesty by the House of Commons, Nov. 14, 1755.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne; and to congratulate your Majesty upon your safe and happy return into these kingdoms.

With hearts full of gratitude we offer to your Majesty our dutiful acknowledgements for your paternal care and endeavours to preserve to your people the blessings of peace; and, when terms consistent with the true interest of this kingdom could not be obtained, for the great expedition with which your Majesty caused your naval force to be got ready, and the magnanimity

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and resolution your Majesty has shewn, at the hazard of all events, to defend the British dominions in America, not only encroached upon, but openly attacked by the French in a time of full peace, and further threatened and endangered by a large embarkation of troops from Europe.

We are truly sensible of your Majesty's great wisdom and moderation in being desirous, though so highly provoked, to listen to a reasonable accommodation, and, in endeavouring to avoid the calamities of a general war, by confining your operations to measures necessary for defence; a conduct which must demonstrate to the other powers of Europe the uprightness of your Majesty's intentions, and convince them that your Majesty is not the aggressor.

The King of Spain's generous concern for the common welfare of Europe, and the assurances he has given your Majesty of his desire to preserve the public tranquillity, give us the greatest satisfaction.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that your dutiful and faithful Commons will vigorously and cheerfully support your Majesty in all such wise and necessary measures and engagements as your Majesty may have taken to vindicate the just rights and possessions of your crown, and to guard against any attempts which France may make on account of your Majesty's not having submitted to their unjustifiable encroachments; and that we think ourselves bound in justice and gratitude to assist your Majesty against insults and attacks that may be made upon any of your Majesty's dominions, though not belonging to the crown of Great Britain, in resentment of the part your Majesty has taken in a cause wherein the interests of this kingdom are immediately and so essentially concerned.

We are humbly thankful to your Majesty for your tender care in directing the necessary augmentation of your land forces to be made in the manner the least burthensome to your people.

We assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons will grant your Majesty such supplies as shall be found necessary in this great conjuncture; and that we will, in all our deliberations, manifest to the world, that we have sincerely at heart the honour of our King, the support of his government, and the true interest of this country.

His

His Majesty's Answer, November 17, 1755.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this dutiful and loyal address.

You may be assured, although I wish for nothing more than a safe and honourable accommodation, I am determined to protect and maintain the valuable and undoubted rights and possessions of my crown.

Your assurances that you will assist me in the defence of my foreign dominions, if they should be attacked on account of the measures I am pursuing for the true interest of these kingdoms, are such proofs of your affection to me, and of your regard to my honour, as give me the greatest satisfaction.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Lords, Nov. 28, 1755.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty having received from his ambassador at Madrid a certain account of the fatal and deplorable event which happened at Lisbon on the first instant by an earthquake, which has laid waste almost the whole city, and destroyed many thousands of the inhabitants; in consequence whereof, those who remain must be reduced to the utmost distress; and his Majesty, being moved with the greatest concern for so good and faithful an ally as the King of Portugal, and with the utmost compassion for the distresses to which that city and kingdom must be reduced, wherein great numbers of his Majesty's own subjects were resident, and many more interested; recommends to the House of Lords the consideration of this dreadful and extensive calamity which cannot fail deeply to affect the hearts of all persons who have any sense of religion or humanity; and desires the concurrence and assistance of the House of Lords, in sending such speedy and effectual relief as may be suitable to so afflicting and pressing an exigency.

G. R.

Effect of the Lords Answer.

ORDERED by the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, that an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return him the thanks of this House for his most gracious message; and to express our just and high sense of his Majesty's royal concern for the great misfortune that has befallen his Majesty's good and faithful ally, the King of

 Portugal;

Portugal; and for his generous compaſſion expreſſed for the miſeries of the unhappy ſufferers by that dreadful and extraordinary calamity, which is ſo agreeable to his Majeſty's known humanity and greatneſs of mind.

To declare how deeply we are affected with this melancholy and deplorable event, and to aſſure his Majeſty of the hearty concurrence and aſſiſtance of this Houſe, in ſending ſuch ſpeedy and effectual relief as may be ſuitable to ſo afflicting and preſſing an exigency.

Meſſage from his Majeſty to the Houſe of Commons, Jan. 28, 1756.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majeſty, being ſenſible of the zeal and vigour with which his faithful ſubjects of certain colonies in North America have exerted themſelves in defence of his Majeſty's juſt rights and poſſeſſions, recommends it to this Houſe to take the ſame into their conſideration, and to enable his Majeſty to give them ſuch aſſiſtance as may be a proper reward and encouragement.

Meſſage from his Majeſty to the Houſe of Lords, March 23, 1756.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majeſty has received repeated advices from different places and perſons, that a deſign has been formed by the French court to make a hoſtile invaſion upon Great Britain or Ireland; and the great preparations of land forces, ſhips, artillery, and warlike ſtores, now notoriouſly making in the ports of France oppoſite to the Britiſh coaſts, together with the language held by the French miniſters in ſome foreign courts, leave little room to doubt of the reality of ſuch a deſign; his Majeſty has therefore judged it neceſſary to acquaint the Houſe of Commons with intelligence of ſuch high importance to the ſafety and well-being of theſe nations; and, at the ſame time, to inform them, that, in purſuance of the advice and aſſurances of his Parliament, he has augmented his forces by ſea and land, and taken proper meaſures and precautions for putting his kingdoms in a poſture of defence againſt ſo unjuſt and deſperate an enterpriſe, projected in revenge for thoſe juſt and neceſſary meaſures which have been taken for maintaining the rights and poſſeſſions of his crown and ſubjects in North America: that in order further to ſtrengthen himſelf, his Majeſty has made a requiſition of a body of Heſſian troops, pur-

ſuant to the treaty lately made with the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, to be forthwith brought over hither, for which purpoſe tranſports are ordered: his Majeſty, truſting in the Divine protection, and in the good affections, zeal, and fidelity of his people, which he has ſo often experienced, is determined to neglect no means of defence, but to exert all the force which God has put into his hands, to repel ſo daring an attempt; and his Majeſty doubts not that he will be enabled and ſupported by his faithful Commons, in taking all ſuch meaſures as may be conducive to an end ſo eſſential to the honour of his crown, the preſervation of the proteſtant religion, and the laws and liberties of theſe kingdoms. G. R.

Order by the Lords.

ORDERED by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, that an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty to return him the thanks of this Houſe for his moſt gracious meſſage, and for informing us of the advices which his Majeſty has received of the deſigns and preparations of the French court againſt Great Britain or Ireland.

To aſſure his Majeſty, that this Houſe looks with the utmoſt indignation upon ſo unjuſt and daring an attempt as that of invading theſe kingdoms in revenge for the generous and ſteady conduct his Majeſty has held, in maintaining the juſt rights and poſſeſſions of his crown and ſubjects in North America, againſt the unprovoked aggreſſions and hoſtilities originally commenced on the part of France; and humbly to intreat his Majeſty not to ſuffer himſelf to be diverted from it by any appearances whatſoever.

To acknowledge with gratitude the prudent meaſures and precautions which his Majeſty has taken for putting his kingdoms in a poſture of defence, and for having made the requiſition of a body of Heſſian troops to be brought over hither, in conſequence of the treaty lately concluded with the Landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel.

To beſeech his Majeſty to purſue his gracious reſolution of exerting all the force which God has put into his hands, to diſappoint and repel ſo deſperate an undertaking; and, particularly, to augment his army in Ireland in ſuch manner as he ſhall think neceſſary.

To aſſure his Majeſty, that we will, with unſhaken zeal, vigour, and unanimity, at the hazard of our lives and fortunes, ſtand by his Majeſty againſt all his enemies, and ſupport him in all ſuch meaſures as he ſhall find requiſite in this critical conjuncture; this Houſe not in the leaſt doubting, that even

the menace of ſo injurious and preſumptuous an enterpriſe, will create the higheſt deteſtation in all who call themſelves Britons and proteſtants; and raiſe a becoming ſpirit in all his Majeſty's ſubjects for the defence of his ſacred perſon and government, the proteſtant ſucceſſion in his royal family, and the religion, laws, and liberties of theſe kingdoms.

His Majeſty was pleaſed to anſwer,

THAT he thanks the Houſe of Lords for the repeated aſſurances of their unalterable zeal, duty, and affection to his Majeſty on this occaſion, and has the utmoſt confidence in their vigorous ſupport.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, May 27, 1756.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AFTER ſo long and unwearied application to the public buſineſs, it is reaſonable that I ſhould give you ſome receſs. I muſt, at the ſame time, return you my hearty thanks for the vigorous and effectual ſupport you have given me, in maintaining that juſt and national cauſe in which I am engaged.

The injuries and hoſtilities which have been, for ſome time, committed by the French againſt my dominions and ſubjects, are now followed by the actual invaſion of the iſland of Minorca; which ſtands guaranteed to me by all the great powers of Europe, and in particular by the French King. I have therefore found myſelf obliged, in vindication of the honour of my crown, and of the rights of my people, to declare war in form againſt France. I rely on the Divine protection, and the vigorous aſſiſtance of my faithful ſubjects, in ſo juſt a cauſe.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I return you my hearty thanks for the readineſs and diſpatch with which you have granted me ſuch large ſupplies. You may depend on their being ſtrictly applied to the good purpoſes for which they were given.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Nothing has given me more inward ſatisfaction than the confidence which you repoſe in me. It is the moſt acceptable return you could make to me; and, you may be aſſured, ſhall be made uſe of only for your good. The preſervation of your religion,

religion, liberties, and independency, is, and always ſhall be, my great aim; and I truſt you will not be wanting to yourſelves.

Then the Lord Chancellor, having received directions from his Majeſty, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's pleaſure that both Houſes of Parliament ſhould forthwith ſeverally adjourn themſelves to Friday the 18th day of June next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, December 2, 1756.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE called you together in a conjuncture which highly requires the deliberation, advice, and aſſiſtance of Parliament; and I truſt, that (under the guidance of Divine Providence) union and firmneſs in my affectionate people will carry me, with honour, through all difficulties; and finally vindicate the dignity of my crown, and its undubitable rights, againſt the ancient enemy of theſe kingdoms.

The ſuccour and preſervation of America cannot but conſtitute a main object of my attention and ſolicitude; and the growing dangers to which our colonies may ſtand expoſed, from our late loſſes in thoſe parts, demand reſolutions of vigour and diſpatch.

An adequate and firm defence at home muſt have the chief place in my thoughts; and, in this great view, I have nothing ſo much at heart, as that no ground of diſſatisfaction may remain in my people.

To this end, a national militia, planned and regulated with equal regard to the juſt rights of my crown and people, may, in time, become one good reſource, in caſe of general danger; and I recommend the framing of ſuch a militia to the care and diligence of my Parliament.

The unnatural union of councils abroad, the calamities which, in conſequence of this unhappy conjunction, may, by irruptions of foreign armies into the empire, ſhake its conſtitutions, overturn its ſyſtem, and threaten oppreſſion to the proteſtant intereſt there, are events which muſt ſenſibly affect the minds of this nation, and have fixed the eyes of all Europe on this new and dangerous criſis.

The body of my electoral troops, which I ordered hither at the deſire of my Parliament, I have directed to return to my dominions

dominions in Germany; relying, with pleasure, on the spirit and zeal of my people in defence of my person and realm.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I will order the proper estimates to be laid, in due time, before you; and I rely on your wisdom, that you will prefer more vigorous efforts (though attended with large expense) to a less effectual, and therefore less frugal plan of war.

I have placed before you the dangers and necessities of the public; it will be your care to lay, in such a manner, the burdens you may judge unavoidable, as will least distress and exhaust my people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I cannot here be unmindful of the sufferings of the poorer sort, from the present high price of corn, and the disturbances which have arisen therefrom; and I recommend to you to consider of proper provisions for preventing the like mischiefs hereafter.

Unprosperous events of war, in the Mediterranean, have drawn from my subjects signal proofs how dearly they tender my honour, and that of my crown; and they cannot, on my part, fail to meet with just returns of unwearied care, and unceasing endeavours for the glory, prosperity, and happiness of my people.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Dec. 3, 1756.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

The importance of the present crisis, and the dangerous consequences which may result from the unnatural union of councils in Europe, are so forcibly felt by this House, that we should think ourselves wanting in duty to your Majesty, and our country, if we did not beg leave to offer, at your royal feet, our strongest assurances that we will, to the utmost of our power, promote and effectuate such measures as shall be found expedient for vindicating the honour of your crown, and asserting the just rights of your Majesty and your subjects.

Permit us to return your Majesty our most humble and grateful thanks for your Majesty's gracious condescension to the request of your Parliament, in causing a body of your electoral

electoral troops to come into this country at a conjuncture so critical to its preservation and defence.

With the deepest sense of our obligations to your Majesty, we beg leave to approach your throne, there to offer the tribute of our warmest gratitude for that paternal care and solicitude which your Majesty has expressed for the succour and preservation of America; nor are we less sensibly affected with your Majesty's gracious attention to the safety and honour of this kingdom, by recommending to our care the forming such a plan of defence at home as may enable your Majesty to exert the power of Great Britain with vigour and success abroad.

The many blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's mild and gracious government call for the warmest and sincerest acknowledgments of our hearts; and demand, on our part, the most firm and loyal assurances to your Majesty, that, not discouraged by any unprosperous events of war, we will, with the greater ardour and alacrity, employ our most zealous efforts to extricate your Majesty from all difficulties, with honour and dignity to your Majesty's crown and prosperity to your people.

We beg leave to return your Majesty the thanks of this House for the tender and compassionate regard your Majesty has shewn to the sufferings of the poorer sort from the high price of corn; and to assure your Majesty, that we will take that matter into our immediate consideration, in order to provide such speedy and adequate relief as the nature and importance of the case require.

His Majesty's Answer, Dec. 3, 1756.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address. The warm expressions with which you repeat the assurances of your determination to exert yourselves in the defence of the rights and possessions of my crown, give me the greatest satisfaction; and you may be assured, the only uses I shall make of the confidence you repose in me, will be to pursue such measures as the present critical conjuncture renders necessary for the welfare and prosperity of my kingdoms.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Commons, December 3, 1756.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Your faithful Commons, excited by duty, and warm with gratitude, do, from our hearts, acknowledge the paternal care and royal condeſcenſion of your Majeſty, in pointing out from the throne ſuch a plan of force for our defence as may beſt tend to the ſatisfaction of your people, and, in particular, a well-modelled national militia, as one proper ſecurity for your Majeſty's perſon and realm.

In this preſent arduous conjuncture, your faithful Commons, next after Divine Providence, rely on your Majeſty's wiſdom and magnanimity, remembering Britiſh efforts in times paſt, under princes whoſe firſt glory was to found, like your Majeſty, the ſtrength of their government in the contentment and harmony of their ſubjects.

Thus united, and thus animated, this Houſe will cheerfully ſupport your Majeſty through all difficulties, and vindicate, to the utmoſt, the dignity of your crown, and its undubitable rights againſt the ancient enemy of theſe kingdoms.

We truſt, your Majeſty, ſtrong at home, will find yourſelf revered abroad, and in a condition to ſupport that weight and conſideration in Europe which belong to a King of Great Britain, notwithſtanding the unnatural and unhappy union of councils which have formed on the continent ſo new and dangerous a criſis.

This Houſe thinks, with pain, on the ſad events of war in the Mediterranean and in America; they will take theſe affecting matters into their moſt ſerious conſideration, not imputing blame to any unheard; and will, with all confidence, alacrity, and diſpatch, ſecond your Majeſty's royal care for the ſpeedy ſuccour and preſervation of America under the growing dangers to which thoſe invaluable poſſeſſions ſtand expoſed.

We beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that your faithful Commons will conſider of proper proviſions for the relief of the poorer ſort from the preſent high price of corn, and for preventing the like miſchiefs hereafter, according to the royal and compaſſionate recommendation of your Majeſty.

His

His Majesty's Answer, December 4, 1756.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my thanks for this dutiful and affectionate address.

Nothing can give me so great satisfaction, or tend so much to the public safety, as union and harmony amongst my subjects.

You may rely on my constant care and attention to the welfare of my people.

December 4, 1756.

Resolutions and Orders of the Right Honourable the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament assembled, upon Complaint made to their Lordships of a spurious and forged printed Paper, dispersed and publicly sold as his Majesty's Speech to both Houses of Parliament, December 2, 1756.

COMPLAINT having been made to the House of a spurious and forged printed paper, dispersed and publicly sold as the King's speech, intituled, "His Majesty's most gracious Speech to both Houses of Parliament, on Thursday the 2d day of December 1756, London, printed by T. Beskett, and by the Assigns of R. Beskett, Printer to his Majesty, 1756." And oath being made at the bar, that James How and George King were concerned in printing and publishing thereof;

It is resolved, by the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, that the said printed paper is an audacious forgery, and a false, scandalous, and infamous libel; a high contempt of his Majesty, his crown, and dignity, and a notorious violation of the privileges of Parliament; tending to poison the minds of the people, and to create and foment jealousies and animosities amongst his Majesty's good subjects in this time of common danger.

Resolved, That, in abhorrence and detestation of such abominable and seditious practices, one of the said printed papers be burnt by the hands of the commmon hangman in the New Palace Yard, Westminster, on Wednesday, the 8th day of this instant December, at one o'clock in the afternoon; and that another of the said printed papers be burnt by the hands of the common hangman, before the Royal Exchange, in London, on Friday, the 10th day of this instant December, at the same hour; and that the sheriffs of London and Middlesex do attend at the said times and places respectively, and cause the same to be burnt there accordingly.

 Ordered,

Ordered, That the gentleman usher of the black rod attending this House do forthwith attach the bodies of the said James How and George King, for their said offence, and keep them in safe custody till the further order of this House.

Ordered, That the matter of the said complaint be taken into further consideration on Wednesday, the 15th day of this instant December, and that the Lords be summoned.

Ordered, That the abovesaid resolutions and orders be forthwith printed and published.

ASHLEY COWPER,
Cler' Parliamentor'

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, Feb. 17, 1757.

GEORGE REX.

IT is always with reluctance that his Majesty asks any extraordinary supplies of his people; but as the united councils, and formidable preparations of France and her allies, threaten with the most alarming consequences Europe in general; and as these most unjust and vindictive designs are particularly and immediately bent against his Majesty's electoral dominions, and those of his good ally the King of Prussia, his Majesty confides in the experienced zeal and affection of his faithful Commons, that they will cheerfully assist him in forming and maintaining an army of observation for the just and necessary defence and preservation thereof, and enable his Majesty to fulfil his engagements with the King of Prussia, for the security of the empire against the irruption of foreign armies, and for the support of the common cause.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, Feb. 26, 1757.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty, agreeably to his royal word, for the sake of justice, and of example to the discipline of the navy, and for the safety and honour of the nation, was determined to have let the law take its course, with relation to Admiral Byng, as upon Monday next; and resisted all solicitations to the contrary.

But being informed that a member of the House of Commons, who was a member of the court martial which tried the said admiral, has, in his place, applied to the House in behalf of himself, and several other members of the said court, praying the aid of Parliament to be released from the oath of se-

crecy impofed on courts martial, in order to difclofe the grounds whereon fentence of death paffed on the faid admiral; the refult of which difcovery may fhew the fentence to be improper; his Majefty has thought fit to refpite the execution of the fame, in order that there may be an opportunity of knowing, by the feparate examination of the members of the faid court upon oath, what ground there is for the above fuggeftion.

His Majefty is determined ftill to let this fentence be carried into execution, unlefs it fhall appear, from the faid examination, that Admiral Byng was unjuftly condemned.

G. R.

Meffage from his Majefty to the Houfe of Commons, May 16, 1757.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majefty being defirous that his faithful fubjects in his provinces of North and South Carolina and Virginia, in America, fhould receive a proper recompence for fuch fervices as, with the approbation of the commander in chief of his forces in America, they refpectively fhall have performed, or fhall perform, either by putting the faid provinces in a ftate of defence, or by acting with vigour againft the enemy, recommends it to this Houfe to take the fame into their confideration, and to enable his Majefty to give them a proper recompence for fuch fervices: his Majefty alfo acquaints this Houfe, that a battalion of his forces, which has been employed in the fettlements of the united company of merchants in England trading to the Eaft Indies, is by his order withdrawn from thofe fettlements; and therefore recommends it to this Houfe, to enable his Majefty to affift the faid company in defraying the expence of a military force in the Eaft Indies, to be maintained by them in lieu of the faid battalion.

G. R.

Meffage from his Majefty to the Houfe of Commons, May 17, 1757.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majefty, relying on the experienced zeal and affection of his faithful Commons, and confidering that, in this critical conjuncture, emergencies may arife, which may be of the utmoft importance, and be attended with the moft pernicious confequences, if proper means fhould not immediately be applied to prevent or defeat them, is defirous that this Houfe will enable him to defray any extraordinary expenfes of the war

war incurred, or to be incurred, for the service of the year 1757; and to take all such measures as may be necessary to disappoint or defeat any enterprises or designs of his enemies, and as the exigency of affairs may require.

G. R.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 4, 1757.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AFTER so long and diligent an attendance upon the public business, it is time that I should give you some recess. But I cannot put an end to the session without expressing my entire satisfaction in the many proofs I have received of your zeal and affection for my person and government, and of your unfeigned concern for my honour and real support.

The succour and preservation of my dominions in America have been my constant care; and, next to the security of my kingdoms, they shall continue to be my great and principal object: and I have taken such measures, as, I trust, by the blessing of God, may effectually disappoint the designs of my enemies in those parts.

I have had no other view but to vindicate the just rights of my crown and subjects from the most injurious encroachments; to preserve tranquillity, as far as the circumstances of things might admit; and to prevent our true friends, and the liberties of Europe, from being oppressed or endangered by any unprovoked and unnatural conjunction.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the large supplies which you have so cheerfully and unanimously given me. It affords me great pleasure, that the frugal use made of the confidence reposed in me the last year, has been an inducement to you to renew the same; and you may be assured, that it shall be applied only to the purposes for which it was intended.

I shall be particularly attentive to reduce all unnecessary expenses, in order the better to provide for the great and requisite services of the war.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing to desire of you, but what is equally essential to your own interest, and to my service. Let it be your constant endeavour to promote harmony and good agreement amongst my faithful subjects; that, by our union at home, we may be the better able to repel and frustrate abroad the dangerous designs of the enemies of my crown.

Then

Then the Lord Keeper, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurſday, the eleventh day of Auguſt next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the eleventh day of Auguſt next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, December 1, 1757.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT would have given me the greateſt pleaſure to have acquainted you, at the opening of this ſeſſion, that our ſucceſs in carrying on the war had been equal to the juſtice of our cauſe, and the extent and vigour of the meaſures formed for that purpoſe.

I have the firmeſt confidence that the ſpirit and bravery of this nation, ſo renowned in all times, and which have formerly ſurmounted ſo many difficulties, are not to be abated by ſome diſappointments. Theſe, I truſt, by the bleſſing of God, and your zeal and ardour for my honour, and the welfare of your country, may be retrieved. It is my fixed reſolution to apply my utmoſt efforts for the ſecurity of my kingdoms, and for the recovery and protection of the poſſeſſions and rights of my crown and ſubjects in America, and elſewhere; as well by the ſtrongeſt exertion of our naval force, as by all other methods. Another great object which I have at heart, is the preſervation of the proteſtant religion, and the liberties of Europe; and, in that view, to adhere to and encourage my allies.

For this cauſe I ſhall decline no inconveniencies; and, in this cauſe, I earneſtly deſire your hearty concurrence and vigorous aſſiſtance. The late ſignal ſucceſs in Germany has given a happy turn to affairs, which it is incumbent upon us to improve; and, in this critical conjuncture, the eyes of all Europe are upon you. In particular, I muſt recommend it to you, that my good brother and ally, the King of Pruſſia, may be ſupported in ſuch a manner as his magnanimity and active zeal for the common cauſe deſerve.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

It gives me the utmoſt concern, that the large ſupplies which you have already granted for carrying on the war, have not produced all the good effects we had reaſon to hope for. But

 I have

I have ſo great a reliance on your wiſdom as not to doubt of your perſeverance. I only deſire ſuch ſupplies as ſhall be neceſſary for the public ſervice; and to that end, have ordered the proper eſtimates to be laid before you. You may depend upon it that the beſt and moſt faithful œconomy ſhall be uſed.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have had ſuch ample experience of the loyalty and good affections of my faithful ſubjects towards me, my family, and government, in all circumſtances, that I am confident they are not to be ſhaken. But I cannot avoid taking notice of that ſpirit of diſorder which has ſhewn itſelf amongſt the common people in ſome parts of the kingdom: let me recommend to you to do your part in diſcouraging and ſuppreſſing ſuch abuſes, and for maintaining the laws and lawful authority. If any thing ſhall be found wanting to explain and enforce what may have been miſunderſtood or miſrepreſented, I am perſuaded it will not eſcape your attention.

Nothing can be ſo conducive to the defence of all that is dear to us, as well as for reducing our enemies to reaſon, as union and harmony amongſt ourſelves.

Addreſs to his Majeſty by the Houſe of Lords, Dec. 2, 1757.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

The concern which you are pleaſed to expreſs for the diſappointments that have unhappily attended ſome of the meaſures formed by your Majeſty this year for carrying on the juſt war in which we are engaged, is a freſh mark of your paternal regard for the welfare of your people, and for the glory of this kingdom.

The teſtimony which your Majeſty has at the ſame time given to the ſpirit and bravery of this nation, and to the ardent zeal of your Parliament to retrieve theſe misfortunes, is a proof of the juſtice done by your royal mind to our principles and ſentiments, and the greateſt encouragement to perſevere in them.

Affected, therefore, as we are with theſe events, we are not diſcouraged; but we ſincerely promiſe your Majeſty our hearty concurrence and moſt vigorous aſſiſtance in accompliſhing, under the protection of the Divine Providence, your wiſe and gracious intentions for our defence and ſafety at home, and for recovering

recovering and ſecuring the rights and poſſeſſions of your crown and ſubjects in America and elſewhere, particularly by the utmoſt exertion of that eſſential part of our ſtrength, your naval force.

The preſervation of the proteſtant religion and the liberties of Europe are objects never to be forgotten by us. Of this pure religion and theſe invaluable liberties, Great Britain has in all times been a principal bulwark, and cannot fail to continue ſo under your Majeſty's auſpicious reign.

As the late ſignal ſucceſs in Germany fills us with unfeigned joy, ſo it animates our hopes to ſee this glorious cauſe revive: and we do, with equal thankfulneſs and ſatisfaction, acknowledge your Majeſty's generous declaration, that for the ſake of it you will decline no inconveniences.

To defend your Majeſty againſt all your enemies, to ſupport your honour and real intereſts, and to ſtrengthen your hands, are our indiſpenſable duty. It ſhall alſo be our endeavour to improve this ſucceſs to the moſt uſeful purpoſes; and to exert ourſelves in ſupporting your good ally the King of Pruſſia, whoſe magnanimity and unexampled firmneſs are ſo evident to all the world, and of ſuch great utility to the common cauſe.

We have ſeen with the utmoſt abhorrence that ſpirit of diſorder and riot which has ſhewn itſelf of late amongſt the common people. We are ſenſible that it is inconſiſtent with all government, and neceſſary to be reformed and ſuppreſſed. Nothing ſhall be wanting on our part for this ſalutary purpoſe, and to enforce and add ſtrength to the laws and lawful authority, on which the liberty and property of the meaneſt as well as of the chief of your ſubjects depend.

Your Majeſty's kind admonition of the neceſſity of union and harmony amongſt ourſelves, is highly worthy the common father of your people. We will always have it before our eyes. And we give your Majeſty the ſtrongeſt aſſurances that our loyalty and good affections to your Majeſty and your royal family, of which we have on all occaſions given real proofs, are never to be ſhaken or diminiſhed. The preſervation of your ſacred perſon, the ſtability of your government, and the continuance of the proteſtant ſucceſſion in your illuſtrious houſe, will ever be moſt dear to us, and eſſential to the happineſs of all your people.

His

His Majesty's Answer, December 2, 1757.

My Lords,

NOTHING could possibly give me greater satisfaction than this very dutiful and affectionate address. I heartily thank you for it, and make no doubt but the zeal and vigour which you so seasonably express in this critical conjuncture, will have the best effects both at home and abroad.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Dec. 2, 1757.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty that this House sees with the deepest concern the success of your Majesty's arms so unequal to the justice of your cause, and to the extent and vigour of the measures formed for that purpose.

Your faithful Commons firmly rely, that as your Majesty in your royal justice has endeavoured to trace the causes of past disappointments, your Majesty will also in your high wisdom open better hopes of future prosperities, by invigorating our enterprises, and animating the attempts of the British arms; and in this confidence they will cheerfully support your Majesty in the utmost efforts for the security of your kingdoms, and for the recovery and protection of the possessions and rights of your crown and subjects in America and elsewhere, as well by the strongest exertion of your Majesty's naval force, as by all other adequate methods.

Permit us to assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons, excited by zeal for the protestant cause and the liberties of Europe, do, with most unfeigned joy, humbly offer their congratulations to your Majesty on the late signal success in Germany; and that they will vigorously and effectually enable your Majesty to improve the happy turn of affairs there, and in particular to support your good ally the King of Prussia in such a manner as the magnanimity and the unexampled efforts of that great prince, in defence of the religious and civil liberties of Europe, deserve and require.

We should be wanting to ourselves and to those we represent, not to acknowledge with all dutiful gratitude, your Ma-

jesty's

jesty's paternal and seasonable care for the interior tranquillity and safety of your subjects, in having been graciously pleased to recommend to us to do our part for maintaining the laws and lawful authority against that spirit of disorder which has shewn itself amongst the lower people in some parts of the kingdom, and we will not fail in due time to take into our most serious consideration the properest methods for discouraging and suppressing such abuses, and for preventing the causes of the like mischiefs hereafter.

His Majesty's Answer, December 5, 1757.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my thanks for your dutiful and affectionate address, and for this unanimous mark of your zeal for the honour of my crown and the support of the common cause, and particularly of my good brother and ally the King of Prussia.

You may depend on my constant endeavours for the safety and welfare of my kingdoms, and for the preservation of the liberties of Europe.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Lords, April 13, 1758.

George Rex.

HIS Majesty has nothing more at heart than the vigorous prosecution of the just war in which he is engaged against France, in order to the obtaining of a safe and honourable peace; and for that end has lately entered into a convention with his good brother and ally the King of Prussia, a copy whereof he has ordered to be laid before this House.

That his Majesty might be in such a posture as might enable him to support the operations which should be concerted between him and the King of Prussia with the greater vigour, the army formed last year in his electoral dominions, was, by his orders, put again into motion, from the 28th of November last, which it has pleased God to bless with very considerable successes against the enemy. His Majesty, therefore, considering the exhausted and ruined state of his electorate and its revenues, by the cruel oppressions and depredations committed by the French, and relying on the constant zeal of the House of Lords for his honour and true interest, the protestant religion, and the liberties of Europe, and for the safety and defence of his kingdoms and dominions, desires the concurrence and support of this House for making good his engagements with the King of Prussia,

Pruſſia, and carrying on the meaſures before-mentioned in ſuch a manner as may moſt effectually prevent the dangerous deſigns of France and her confederates, and beſt conduce to the ſecurity of his Majeſty's kingdoms, the protection of their commerce, and the preſervation of his dominions in America.

G. R.

Order by the Houſe of Lords, April 14, 1758.

ORDERED by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, that an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, to return him the thanks of this Houſe for his moſt gracious meſſage, and for communicating to us the convention lately entered into between his Majeſty and his good brother and ally the King of Pruſſia.

To expreſs our grateful ſenſe of his Majeſty's wiſe and magnanimous reſolution vigorouſly to proſecute this juſt war againſt France, in order to a ſafe and honourable peace; and of the meaſures taken by his Majeſty for that purpoſe, by concluding the ſaid convention, and by putting the army formed the laſt year in his electorate into motion, in order to act in concert with that great and indefatigable prince, the King of Pruſſia, for the good of the common cauſe.

To declare our unfeigned and deep concern and reſentment for the miſeries which his Majeſty's electorate has ſuffered by the cruel oppreſſions and devaſtations of the French, and to aſſure him of our unſhaken zeal for his honour and true intereſt, the proteſtant religion, the liberties of Europe, and the defence of his Majeſty's kingdoms and dominions; and that his Majeſty may depend on the cheerful concurrence and ſupport of this Houſe for making good his engagements with the King of Pruſſia, and for vigorouſly purſuing all ſuch meaſures as may moſt effectually prevent the dangerous deſigns of France and her confederates, promote the ſecurity of his kingdoms and the commerce of his ſubjects, and the preſervation of our colonies, rights, and poſſeſſions in America.

Effect of his Majeſty's Anſwer, April 17, 1758.

THAT he thanks the Houſe of Lords for the dutiful and affectionate expreſſions of their zeal for his Majeſty's honour and true intereſt, the welfare of their country, and the defence of his kingdoms and dominions; and has the utmoſt reliance on their vigorous ſupport.

Speech

Speech of the Lords Commissioners, June 20, 1758.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WE have received the King's commands upon this occasion to assure you, that his Majesty has the deepest sense of the loyalty and good affections demonstrated by his Parliament throughout the whole course of this session. The zeal which you have shewn for his Majesty's honour and real interest in all parts, your earnestness to surmount every difficulty, and your ardour to carry on the war with the utmost vigour, in order to a safe and honourable peace, must convince all the world that the ancient spirit of the British nation is still subsisting in its full force.

His Majesty has also commanded us to acquaint you that he has taken all such measures as have appeared to be most conducive to answer your public-spirited views and wishes. Through your assistance, and by the blessing of God upon the conduct and bravery of the combined army, his Majesty has been enabled not only to deliver his dominions in Germany from the oppressions and devastations of the French, but to push our advantages on this side of the Rhine.

His Majesty has cemented the union between him and his good brother the King of Prussia by new engagements, with which you have been already fully acquainted.

Our fleets and armies are now actually employed in such expeditions as appear likely to annoy the enemy in the most sensible manner; to promote the welfare and prosperity of these kingdoms, and particularly to preserve our rights and possessions in America, and to make France feel our just weight and real strength in those parts. His Majesty trusts in the Divine Providence, that they may be blessed with such success as will most effectually tend to these great and desirable ends.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

We are particularly commanded by the King to return you his thanks for those ample supplies which you have so freely and unanimously given. His Majesty grieves for the burthens of his people; but your readiness in supporting the war is the most probable means the sooner to deliver you from it. You may be assured that nothing will be wanting on his Majesty's part, to secure the most frugal management.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

His Majesty has directed us to repeat his recommendation to you to promote harmony and good agreement amongst his faith-

ful

ful subjects, and to make the uprightness and purity of his intentions and measures rightly understood. Exert yourselves in maintaining the peace and good order of the country, by enforcing obedience to the laws and lawful authority, and by making the people sensible how much they hurt their own true interest by the contrary practice.

For their sakes the King has commanded us to press this upon you; for their true interest and happiness are his Majesty's great and constant object.

Then a commission for proroguing the Parliament was read.

After which the Lord Keeper said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

BY virtue of his Majesty's commission under the great seal, to us and other Lords directed, and now read, we do, in his Majesty's name, and in obedience to his commands, prorogue this Parliament to Thursday, the third day of August next, to be then here held; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the third day of August next.

Speech of the Lords Commissioners, Nov. 23, 1758.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN pursuance of the authority given to us by his Majesty's commission under the great seal, amongst other things, to declare the causes of his holding this Parliament, his Majesty has been graciously pleased to direct us to assure you that he always receives the highest satisfaction in being able to lay before you any events that may promote the honour and interest of his kingdoms.

That in consequence of your advice, and enabled by that assistance which you unanimously gave him, his Majesty has exerted his endeavours to carry on the war in the most vigorous manner, in order to that desirable end always to be wished, a safe and honourable peace. It has pleased the Divine Providence to bless his Majesty's measures and arms with success in several parts, and to make our enemies feel that the strength of Great Britain is not to be provoked with impunity.

We have it also in command from his Majesty to acquaint you that the conquest of the strong fortress of Louisbourg, with the islands of Cape Breton and St. John; the taking of Frontenac, of the highest importance to our operations in North America; and the reduction of Senegal, cannot fail to bring great

great diftrefs upon the French commerce and colonies; and in proportion to procure great advantages to our own. That nation has alfo been made fenfible, that whilft their forces are fent forth to invade and ravage the dominions of their neighbours, their own coafts are not inacceffible to his Majefty's fleets and armies. This they have experienced in the demolition of their works at Cherburg, erected at a great expenfe, with a particular view to annoy this country; and in the lofs of a great number of fhips and veffels: but no treatment, however injurious to his Majefty, could tempt him to make retaliation on the innocent fubjects of that crown.

In Germany his Majefty's good brother the King of Pruffia and Prince Ferdinand of Brunfwick have found full employment for the armies of France and her confederates; from which our operations, both by fea and in America, have derived the moft evident advantage. Their fucceffes, owing, under God, to their able conduct and the bravery of his Majefty's troops, and thofe of his allies, have been fignal and glorious.

His Majefty has further commanded us to obferve to you, that the common caufe of liberty and independency is ftill making noble and vigorous efforts againft the unnatural union formed to opprefs it. That the commerce of his fubjects, the fource of our riches, has, by the vigilant protection received from his Majefty's fleet, flourifhed in a manner not to be paralleled during fuch troubles. In this ftate of things, his Majefty, in his wifdom, thinks it unneceffary to ufe many words to perfuade you to bear up againft all difficulties, effectually to ftand by and defend his Majefty, vigoroufly to fupport the King of Pruffia and the reft of his Majefty's allies, and to exert yourfelves to reduce our enemies to equitable terms of accommodation.

Gentlemen of the Houfe of Commons,

The uncommon extent of this war in different parts occafions it to be uncommonly expenfive. This his Majefty has ordered us to declare unto you that he fincerely laments and feels deeply, for the burdens of his people. The feveral eftimates are ordered to be laid before you, and his Majefty defires only fuch fupplies as fhall be requifite to pufh the war with advantage, and be adequate to the neceffary fervices.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

His Majefty has in the laft place, gracioufly commanded us to affure you, that he takes fo much fatisfaction in that good harmony which fubfifts among his faithful fubjects, that it is

more

more proper for him now to thank you for it, than to repeat his exhortations to it. This union, neceſſary at all times, is more eſpecially ſo in ſuch critical conjunctures; and his Majeſty doubts not but the good effects we have found from it will be the ſtrongeſt motives to you to purſue it.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, Nov. 24, 1758.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to approach your throne with hearts full of that duty and affection to your ſacred perſon and government which become the moſt faithful ſubjects to the beſt of kings.

That conſtant regard and attention which your Majeſty has ſhewn to the honour and intereſt of your kingdoms, have filled our minds with the moſt grateful ſentiments; and we ſee, with real ſatisfaction, thoſe active and vigilant efforts which your Majeſty, in your great wiſdom, has made, to carry on the war with vigour, in order to the deſirable end, which we all wiſh, a ſafe and honourable peace.

Juſtice and good policy required, that our enemies ſhould feel how dangerous it is for them to provoke the ſpirit and ſtrength of the Britiſh nation. We acknowledge, with becoming thankfulneſs, the goodneſs of the Divine Providence, in having crowned your Majeſty's meaſures and arms with ſucceſs in ſeveral parts; and we joyfully congratulate your Majeſty on the conqueſt of the ſtrong fortreſs of Louiſbourg, with the iſlands of Cape Breton and St. John, the taking of Frontenac, and the reduction of Senegal. The high importance of theſe ſucceſſes is apparent in the reputation thereby acquired to your Majeſty's arms, and in the diſtreſs they cannot fail to bring upon the French commerce and colonies, as well as in the happy effects procured to thoſe of Great Britain.

We have ſeen, with the warmeſt emotions of reſentment, the exorbitant devaſtations committed by the armies of France upon the dominions of your Majeſty, and thoſe of your allies in Germany. They muſt now have experienced how much, in conſequence of their unbounded ambition to invade their neighbours, their own coaſts are expoſed in the demolition of their expenſive works at Cherburg, particularly intended for the annoyance of this country; and in the loſs of ſo many ſhips and veſſels, as well privateers as others, in their ports. At the ſame time, we cannot ſufficiently admire your Majeſty's magnanimity and moderation, in not having hitherto

retaliated

retaliated on the innocent subjects of that crown the injurious treatment which you have received.

We have a just sense of the real advantages derived to the operations of Great Britain in particular, as well as to the common cause in general, from the wise conduct of the King of Prussia and Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick. Their great abilities, and the bravery of your Majesty's troops, and those of your allies, have been signally conspicuous, in the successes with which they have been attended, and must be acknowledged by all Europe.

Nothing can possibly be of greater national importance than the navigation and commerce of your subjects; and we return your Majesty our dutiful thanks for that protection and security which they have received from your royal care in the disposition of your fleet, to which their present flourishing condition is so much owing. The stagnation of our enemy's trade, and the taking and destroying so many of their capital ships of war, ought, in this view, to be reckoned amongst the most happy events.

Permit us to declare our grateful sense of that paternal tenderness which your Majesty has expressed for the burdens of your people. We receive from thence the strongest encouragement to adhere the more firmly to the cause of the protestant religion and public liberty against any unnatural union formed to oppress it. In this just cause we will, to our utmost, effectually stand by and defend your Majesty, support the King of Prussia and the rest of your allies, and vigorously exert ourselves to reduce our enemies to equitable terms of accommodation.

Our duty and fidelity to your Majesty, and our zeal for the protestant succession in your royal family, are uniform and unalterable; our prayers for the prolongation of your precious life and auspicious reign over us are sincere and fervent: and we beg leave to give your Majesty the strongest assurances, that nothing shall be wanting on our part to improve union and good harmony amongst all your subjects, for promoting and securing these interesting and essential objects.

His Majesty's Answer, Nov. 24, 1758.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address. The satisfaction which you express in my measures, and the zeal you shew for my honour and support, the true interest of my kingdoms, and the assistance of

my allies, as well as for pursuing the war with vigour, are highly acceptable to me: they cannot fail to produce the best effects in the present conjuncture.

Address to his Majesty by the House of Commons, Nov. 24, 1758.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our most sincere and hearty thanks for the speech delivered by your Majesty's command to both Houses of Parliament.

We beg leave to congratulate your Majesty, with hearts full of the most unfeigned joy, upon the many signal successes with which it has pleased Divine Providence to bless your Majesty's measures and arms in several parts of the world; particularly in the important conquest of the strong fortress of Louisbourg, with the islands of Cape Breton and St. John; the taking of Frontenac, so essential to our operations in North America; the reduction of the valuable settlements of Senegal; the total demolition of the harbour and works of Cherburg, erected at so great expense by the enemy, with a particular view to annoy this country; and the destruction of the shipping and privateers in the ports of France.

Your Majesty's faithful Commons feel, with the highest satisfaction, how greatly these events redound to the honour and interests of your Majesty's kingdoms, to the upholding the reputation of the British arms, and to the maintaining and extending the glories of your Majesty's reign.

We have the most lively sense of these happy consequences, under God, of your Majesty's wisdom in the powerful exertion of the naval force of these kingdoms, to the annoyance and distress of the fleets, trade, and navigation of France, whilst the commerce of Great Britain flourishes in full protection and security; and, at the same time, of your Majesty's justice and magnanimity in steadily supporting your allies, and in carrying on with vigour, in all parts, this arduous and necessary war.

It is with joy and admiration we see the glorious efforts made in Germany by your Majesty's great ally, the King of Prussia, and those made by Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, seconded by the valour of your Majesty's troops and those of your allies; and that full employment has thereby been given to all the armies of France and of her confederates; from

which our operations, both by sea and in America, have received the most evident and important advantages.

Permit us to assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons, justly animated in defence of the rights of your Majesty's crown, and of the protestant religion, and the common cause of liberty and independency, against the dangerous union which hath been formed to oppress them, will bear up against all difficulties, and exert themselves to the utmost, by granting to your Majesty such supplies as shall be necessary effectually to stand by and defend your Majesty, and vigorously to support the King of Prussia and the rest of your Majesty's allies; firmly relying on the wisdom and goodness of your Majesty that the same will be applied in the properest manner to push the war with advantage, and to reduce the enemy to equitable terms of a safe, honourable, and lasting peace.

We beg leave also to express our most grateful sense of the paternal satisfaction your Majesty takes in that good harmony which subsists amongst your faithful subjects, and of your Majesty gracious acceptance of the universal zeal and affection of your people, which salutary union hath enabled us so effectually to exert our strength abroad, and hath preserved at home tranquillity, safety, and credit; and we trust that the continuance of the same truly national spirit will, by the blessing of God, be attended with the like happy effects for the future.

His Majesty's Answer, November 25, 1758.

I RETURN you my thanks for your dutiful and affectionate address, and for this fresh mark of your unanimous zeal in defence of me and my crown, and of my good brother the King of Prussia, and the rest of my allies.

You may depend on my constant endeavours for the preservation of my kingdoms, their trade and colonies, and for the liberties of Europe.

His Majesty's Message to the House of Lords, May 30, 1759.

GEORGE REX.

THE King has received advices, that the French court is making preparations with a design to invade this kingdom: and though his Majesty is persuaded, that by the united zeal and affection of his people any such attempt must, under the blessing of God, end in the destruction of those who shall be engaged therein; yet his Majesty apprehends, that he should

not act consistently with that paternal care and concern which he has always shewn for the safety and preservation of his people, if he omitted any means in his power which may be necessary for their defence: therefore, in pursuance of the late act of Parliament, his Majesty acquaints the House of Lords with his having received repeated intelligence of the actual preparations making in the French ports to invade this kingdom, and of the imminent danger of such invasion being attempted; to the end that his Majesty may (if he shall think proper) cause the militia, or such part thereof as shall be necessary, to be drawn out and embodied, and to march as occasion shall require.

G. R.

Order by the House of Lords, May 31, 1759.

ORDERED by the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, that an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return him the thanks of this House for his most gracious message, and for acquainting us with the intelligence he has received of the preparations making by France to invade this kingdom. To declare our utmost indignation and abhorrence of such a design; and that we will, with united duty, zeal, and affection, at the hazard of our lives and fortunes, stand by and defend his Majesty against any such presumptuous and desperate attempt. To express the just sense we have of his Majesty's goodness to his people, in omitting no means in his power which may tend to their defence; and in his intention to call out and employ the militia, if it shall be found necessary, for that purpose; and to give his Majesty the strongest assurances, that we will with vigour and steadiness support his Majesty in taking the most effectual measures to defeat the designs of his enemies; to preserve and secure his sacred person and government, the protestant succession in his royal family, and the religion, laws, and liberties, of these kingdoms.

Effect of his Majesty's Answer, May 31, 1759.

THAT he thanks the House of Lords for the repeated assurances of their unalterable zeal, duty, and affection, to his Majesty on this occasion; and has the utmost confidence in their vigorous support.

Speech

Speech of the Lords Commissioners delivered by the Lord Keeper, June 2, 1759.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE King has commanded us to put an end to this Seſſion of Parliament; and, at the ſame time, to aſſure you, that as your conduct, during the courſe of it, has highly deſerved his royal approbation, ſo his Majeſty now returns you his hearty thanks for it.

At the opening of this Seſſion his Majeſty exhorted you to bear up againſt all difficulties; effectually to ſtand by and defend his Majeſty; and vigorouſly to ſupport the King of Pruſſia, and the reſt of his allies.

The King has commanded us to acquaint you, that his hopes of ſurmounting thoſe difficulties were founded on the wiſdom, zeal, and affection, of ſo good a Parliament: and that you have fully anſwered his expectations. You have conſidered the war in all its parts; and notwithſtanding the long continuance of it, through the obſtinacy of our enemies, have made ſuch proviſion for the many different operations, as ought to convince the powers engaged againſt us, that it will be for their intereſt, as well as for the eaſe and relief of all Europe, to come to equitable and honourable terms of accommodation.

By your aſſiſtance, the combined army in Germany has been completed; powerful ſquadrons, as well as great numbers of land forces, are employed in America, in order to maintain the juſt rights and poſſeſſions of his Majeſty and his people, and to annoy the enemy in the moſt ſenſible manner in thoſe parts: and, as France is now making conſiderable preparations in her ports, his Majeſty has taken care to put his fleet at home in the beſt condition, both of ſtrength and ſituation, to guard againſt and repel any attempts that may be meditated againſt his kingdoms.

The King's meaſures have all been directed to aſſert the honour of his crown, to preſerve the eſſential intereſts of his faithful ſubjects, and to ſupport the cauſe of the proteſtant religion, and public liberty: his Majeſty therefore truſts, that the uprightneſs of his intentions will draw down the bleſſings of heaven upon his endeavours.

We have it alſo in command from his Majeſty to let you know, that he hopes the proviſions you have made to prevent and correct the exceſſes of the privateers will be effectual to that deſirable end. The King has had it much at heart; for though his Majeſty is ſenſible of the utility of that ſervice, when under proper regulations, he is determined to do his utmoſt to

prevent any injuries or hardſhips being done to the ſubjects of neutral powers, as far as may be practicable, and conſiſtent with his Majeſty's juſt right to hinder the trade of his enemies from being colluſively and fraudulently covered.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

We are commanded to aſſure you, that when his Majeſty conſiders the large ſupplies which you have ſo unanimouſly given, he feels himſelf under the ſtrongeſt obligations, not only to thank you for them, but alſo to applaud the firmneſs and vigor with which you have acted; as well as your prudence in judging that, notwithſtanding the preſent burdens, the making ample proviſion for carrying on the war is the moſt probable means to bring it to an honourable and happy concluſion. No attention will be wanting on his Majeſty's part, for the faithful application of what you have granted.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

His Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to order us to add, that he has nothing more to deſire of you, but that you would carry down the ſame good diſpoſitions, and propagate them in your ſeveral countries, which you have ſhewn in your proceedings during your ſitting here.

After which the Lord Keeper ſaid;

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurſday, the twenty-ſixth day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the twenty-ſixth day of July next.

Speech of the Lords Commiſſioners, Nov. 13, 1759.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN purſuance of the authority given to us by his Majeſty's commiſſion under the great ſeal, amongſt other things, to declare the cauſe of his holding this Parliament, his Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to direct us to aſſure you, that he eſteems himſelf particularly happy, in being able to call you together in a ſituation of affairs ſo glorious and advantageous to his crown and kingdoms.

His Majeſty ſees, and devoutly adores, the hand of Providence in the many and ſignal ſucceſſes, both by ſea and land, with

which

which his arms have been bleſſed in the courſe of the laſt ſummer; and, at the ſame time, his Majeſty reflects, with much ſatisfaction, on the confidence which you placed in him, by making ſuch ample proviſions, and intruſting him with ſuch extenſive powers, for carrying on a war, which the defence of our valuable rights and poſſeſſions, and the preſervation of the navigation and commerce of his Majeſty's people, had made both juſt and neceſſary.

We have it alſo in command from his Majeſty to acquaint you, that the happy progreſs of our ſucceſſes, from the taking of Goree, on the coaſt of Africa, to the conqueſt of ſo many important places in America, with the defeat of the French army in Canada, and the reduction of their capital city of Quebec, effected with ſo much honour to the courage and conduct of his Majeſty's officers, both at ſea and land, and with ſo great luſtre to his intrepid forces, together with the important ſucceſs obtained by his Majeſty's fleet off Cape Lagos, and the effectual blocking up, for many months, the principal part of the navy of France in their own ports, are events, which muſt have filled the hearts of all his Majeſty's faithful ſubjects, as well as his own, with the ſincereſt joy; and, his Majeſty truſts, will convince you, that there has been no want of vigilance or vigour, on his part, in exerting thoſe means, which you, with ſo much prudence and public-ſpirited zeal, put into his Majeſty's hands:

That our advantages have extended farther, and the Divine bleſſing has favoured us in the Eaſt Indies, where the dangerous deſigns of his Majeſty's enemies have miſcarried, and that valuable branch of our trade has received great benefit and protection:

That the memorable victory gained over the French near Minden has long made a deep impreſſion on the minds of his Majeſty's people; and that, if the criſis in which that battle was fought, the ſuperior number of the enemy, and the great and able conduct of his Majeſty's general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick, are conſidered, that action muſt be the ſubject of laſting admiration and thankfulneſs.

That if any thing could fill the breaſts of his Majeſty's good ſubjects with ſtill farther degrees of exultation, it is the diſtinguiſhed and unbroken valour of his Majeſty's troops, owned and applauded by thoſe whom they overcame. The glory they have gained is not merely their own; but, in a national view, is one of the moſt important circumſtances of our ſucceſs, as it muſt be a ſtriking admonition to our enemies, with whom they have to contend.

That his Majeſty's good brother and ally, the King of Pruſſia, attacked and ſurrounded by ſo many conſiderable powers, has, by his magnanimity and abilities, and the bravery of his troops, been able, in a ſurpriſing manner, to prevent the miſchiefs concerted with ſuch united force againſt him.

His Majeſty has farther commanded us to obſerve to you, that, as his Majeſty entered into this war, not from views of ambition, ſo he does not wiſh to continue it from motives of reſentment. The deſire of his Majeſty's heart is, to ſee a ſtop put to the effuſion of Chriſtian blood; whenever ſuch terms of peace can be eſtabliſhed, as ſhall be juſt and honourable for his Majeſty and his allies, and by procuring ſuch advantages, as, from the ſucceſſes of his Majeſty's arms, may, in reaſon and equity, be expected ſhall bring along with them full ſecurity for the future, his Majeſty, will rejoice to ſee the repoſe of Europe reſtored on ſuch ſolid and durable foundations; and his faithful ſubjects, to whoſe liberal ſupport and unſhaken firmneſs his Majeſty owes ſo much, happy on the enjoyment of the bleſſings of peace and tranquillity: but, in order to this great and deſirable end, his Majeſty is confident you will agree with him, that it is neceſſary to make ample proviſion for carrying on the war, in all parts, with the utmoſt vigour.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

We are commanded by his Majeſty to aſſure you, that the great ſupplies which were given the laſt ſeſſion have been faithfully employed for the purpoſes for which they were granted; but the uncommon extent of this war, and the various ſervices neceſſary to be provided for, in order to ſecure ſucceſs to his Majeſty's meaſures, have unavoidably occaſioned extraordinary expences, an account of which ſhall be laid before you.

His Majeſty has alſo ordered the proper eſtimates for the ſervice of the enſuing year to be prepared and laid before you; and his Majeſty deſires you to grant him ſuch ſupplies, as ſhall be neceſſary to ſuſtain and preſs, with effect, all our extenſive operations againſt the enemy; and, at the ſame time, by the bleſſing of God, to repel and fruſtrate their daring deſigns againſt his Majeſty's kingdoms.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

His Majeſty has, in the laſt place, been graciouſly pleaſed to command us to repeat to you the aſſurances of the high ſatiſfaction his Majeſty takes in that union and good harmony, which is ſo conſpicuous amongſt his faithful ſubjects; happy in ſeeing it continued and confirmed; and to obſerve to you, that experience has ſhewn, how much we all owe to it; and

that nothing else can effectually secure the true happiness of his people.

Address of the Lords to his Majesty, Nov. 14, 1759.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach your Majesty with the warmest sentiments of duty, and with hearts full of the most sincere joy, to congratulate your Majesty upon the great and signal successes with which it has pleased Almighty God to prosper your Majesty's unwearied endeavours for the safety, welfare, and honour of your people.

We acknowledge, with all thankfulness and humility, the goodness of the Divine Providence, in the many glorious events which will for ever distinguish this memorable year.

We entirely rely upon your Majesty's constant regard and attention to the true interests of your subjects, from the full experience which we have had of the wise and effectual use which your Majesty has made of all the extensive powers with which the confidence of Parliament has, from time to time, strengthened your Majesty's hands. But we, must, in a particular manner, gratefully acknowledge the extraordinary vigilance, vigor, and wisdom of your Majesty's measures, in the steady and successful direction of so many various operations in different parts of the world.

The happy progress of your Majesty's arms from the taking of Goree on the coast of Africa, and some of the French sugar islands in the West Indies, to the acquisition of many important places in America, and the defeat of the enemy's army in Canada, with the reduction of the capital city of Quebec, against the greatest disadvantages of situation and numbers, has exceeded the most sanguine hopes of your Majesty's faithful subjects: nor has the good effect of your Majesty's prudent measures been less conspicuous, in the disappointment of the dangerous designs of your enemies in the East Indies; in the effectual blocking up the principal part of the French fleet in their own ports; and the important advantage gained off Cape Lagos; while your Majesty's care has preserved your own kingdoms from any hostile attempt, and has protected the navigation and commerce of your own subjects in almost as full a security as during the time of profound peace.

The memorable victory gained over the French near Minden cannot but make a deep and lasting impression upon every British mind.

Whether

Whether we confider the great and able conduct of your Majesty's general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunfwick, the valour of your Majesty's troops, the inequality of force, or the imminent peril of that important crifis; the happy deliverance wrought by that action, and the glorious confequences of it, muft ever be the fubject of our praife and thankfulnefs.

It is matter of juft exultation to us, that the Britifh officers and private men, both by fea and land, have given fo many fhining inftances of perfonal bravery and military conduct. Their example will animate others; their reputation is national ftrength, and will convince the enemy what they have to apprehend from a brave and gallant people, fired with zeal in defence of their King and country.

We beg leave to exprefs the high fenfe we have of the magnanimity and tranfcendent abilities of the King of Pruffia; which have, in a furprifing manner, prevented the mifchievous effects of the united force of fo many confiderable powers, by which he has been attacked and furrounded on all fides; againft whom he has bore up and fupported himfelf by the fortitude and inexhauftible refources of his own mind, and the courage and difcipline of his troops.

Permit us to declare, how highly we applaud your Majefty's moderation and true greatnefs of mind in reftraining every impulfe of refentment, and defiring to prevent the farther effufion of Chriftian blood, by putting an end to the war (into which your Majefty entered, not from views of ambition, but folely for the defence of the valuable rights, poffeffions, and commercial interefts of your kingdoms) as foon as fuch terms of peace can be eftablifhed, as fhall be juft and honourable for your Majefty and your allies; and by procuring fuch advantages, as, from the fucceffes of your Majefty's arms, may, in reafon and equity, be expected, fhall bring with them full fecurity for the future.

In order to the attainment of this great and defirable end, we beg leave to affure your Majefty, of our utmoft readinefs to concur in the effectual fupport of fuch farther meafures, as your Majefty, in your great wifdom, fhall judge neceffary or expedient, for carrying on the war with vigour in all parts, and for difappointing and repelling any defperate attempts which may be made upon thefe kingdoms.

Our prayers are fincere and fervent for the prolongation of your Majefty's moft precious life; our endeavours fhall never be wanting to continue and confirm that affection to your Majefty's facred perfon, that confidence in your government, that zeal for the Proteftant fucceffion in your royal family, and that union and harmony fo confpicuous among all your fubjects,

which

which is so essential to their own security and happiness, and to the frustrating the designs of your Majesty's enemies.

His Majesty's Answer, November 14, 1759.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and affectionate address. The satisfaction you so unanimously express in the successes with which it has pleased God to bless my arms by sea and land, and the assurances you give me of your further support, are extremely agreeable to me; and cannot fail to produce the best effects in the present conjuncture.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 14, 1759.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our most humble thanks for the speech delivered by your Majesty's command to both Houses of Parliament.

Permit us, Sir, with the sincerest zeal and duty, to congratulate your Majesty on the glorious and uninterruped series of success and victory which hath attended your Majesty's arms during the whole course of this distinguished and memorable year.

With the deepest reverence, and most devout gratitude to Divine Providence, we acknowledge that manifest blessing and protection which God hath vouchsafed to bestow upon your Majesty's councils and arms, and offer up our most ardent vows and prayers for its continuance.

Your Majesty's faithful Commons will not attempt to enumerate all the advantages and glories derived to your Majesty and these kingdoms from the various successes which have been extended into every quarter of the world; but we humbly beg leave to assure your Majesty, that our hearts are filled with the most grateful and lively sense of the happy consequences, which, under God, are owing to the wisdom, vigilance, and vigour, of your Majesty's measures in the prosecution of this just and necessary war; particularly,

The taking of the Island of Goree, and the extension of our commerce on the coast of Africa, the defeat of the French fleet in the East Indies, and the repulse of their land forces before Madras

Madras, whereby the dangerous designs of our enemies there have miscarried, and protection hath been given to our trade and settlements in those countries; the valuable conquest of Guadeloupe and Marie Galante in the West Indies; the reduction of so many forts and places in North America, completed and crowned by that glorious and decisive victory over the French army in Canada, and the surrender of their capital city of Quebec, effected with so much honour to the courage and conduct of your Majesty's officers by sea and land, and with much lustre to your intrepid forces; the important success of your Majesty's fleet, in pursuing, taking, and destroying, a considerable part of the French squadron off Cape Lagos, and the blocking up, for so many months, the rest of the navy of France in their own ports, which hath greatly augmented the distress of our enemies, whilst it has protected and secured our commerce and navigation.

Nor can we ever forget that critical, signal, and memorable, defeat of the French army near Minden, so justly the subject of lasting admiration and thankfulness, if we consider the superior numbers of the enemy, the great and able conduct of his serene highness Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, or the unconquerable valour of your Majesty's troops.

When we reflect upon this continued train of successes, part of which would have been sufficient to have signalized this long and active campaign, it is impossible for us not to express the highest satisfaction at the great ability, resolution, and perfect harmony, so conspicuous in your Majesty's admirals and generals throughout the execution of your commands, and at the ardent courage which hath manifested itself in the behaviour of the officers and forces both by sea and land, with such personal and national glory: nothing but this spirit could have enabled them to surmount every difficulty arising from the superior number and advantageous situation of the enemy; and we are fully persuaded, that the like resolution, ardour and zeal, excited and animated by those best incentives, your Majesty's gracious acceptance and royal approbation of their eminent services, followed by the warmest and most universal applause of their country, will continue to give terror to the enemies, and confidence to the allies, of Great Britain.

We view with the highest admiration the magnanimity and unexampled efforts of that great prince, your Majesty's ally, the King of Prussia, whose consummate genius, unwearied activity, and unshaken constancy of mind, seconded by the bravery of his troops, have been able, in every situation, to supply resources sufficient to resist the united forces of so many and such formidable powers.

Your

Your Majesty's faithful Commons feel with due gratitude your paternal care and concern for the peace and happiness of your people; and cannot too much admire that true greatness of mind which disposes your heart, in the midst of prosperities, to wish that a stop may be put to the effusion of Christian blood, and that public tranquillity may be restored.

We entirely rely on your Majesty's known wisdom and firmness, that this desirable object, whenever it shall be attained, will be on such terms as shall be just and honourable for your Majesty and your allies, and shall bring along with them full security for the future on solid and durable foundations, by procuring such advantages as may in reason and equity be expected from the successes of our arms, and which will fix in the minds of a grateful people the lasting remembrance of this happy æra, and of the benefits derived to them under your Majesty's glorious and auspicious government.

In order to effect this great end, we are thoroughly sensible that ample provision must be made for carrying on the war in all parts with the utmost vigour; and we assure your Majesty, that we will cheerfully grant your Majesty such supplies as shall be found necessary to sustain and press with effect all our extensive operations against the enemy, and at the same time, by the blessing of God, to repel and frustrate their daring designs against these kingdoms; convinced, from the long experience we have had of the wisdom and goodness of your Majesty, that they will be applied in such manner as will best answer these great purposes.

We cannot sufficiently testify our grateful sense of the high satisfaction which your Majesty has been pleased to express in that perfect union and good harmony which so happily subsists amongst your faithful subjects, the salutary effects of which have been most conspicuous; and the pleasing experience we have had of them, joined to your Majesty's paternal recommendation, must be the most powerful motives to enforce the continuance of those dispositions, so essential to the full exertion of our utmost strength, as well as to the tranquillity, good order, and happiness, of your Majesty's people.

Speech of the Lords Commissioners delivered by the Lord Keeper, May 22, 1760.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WE have received the King's commands to put an end to this Session of Parliament; and, upon this occasion, to assure you, that his Majesty looks back, with entire satisfaction,

tion, on your proceedings during the course of it. The duty and affection which you have expressed for his person and government, and the zeal and unanimity which you have shewn in maintaining the true interest of your country, can only be equalled by what his Majesty has formerly experienced from this Parliament.

His Majesty has commanded us to acquaint you, that it would have given him the most sensible pleasure to have been able to communicate to you, that his sincere endeavours to promote a general pacification had met with more suitable returns before this time. His Majesty, in conjunction with his good brother and ally, the King of Prussia, chose to give their enemies proofs of this equitable disposition in the midst of a series of glorious victories; an opportunity the most proper to do it with dignity, and to manifest to all Europe the purity and moderation of his views. After such a conduct, his Majesty has the comfort to reflect, that the further continuance of the calamities of war cannot be imputed to him, or his allies; and trusts in the blessing of heaven upon the justice of his arms, and upon those ample means, which your zeal, in so good a cause, has wisely put into his hands, that his future successes, in carrying on the war, will not fall short of the past; and that in the event, the public tranquillity will be restored on solid and durable foundations.

We are further commanded to acquaint you, that his Majesty has taken the most effectual care to augment the combined army in Germany; and, at the same time, to keep up such a force at home, as may frustrate any attempts of the enemy to invade these kingdoms, which have hitherto ended only in their own confusion.

The royal navy was never in a more flourishing and respectable condition; and the signal victory obtained last winter over the French fleet, on their own coasts, as it has added lustre to his Majesty's arms, has given fresh spirit to his maritime forces, and reduced the naval strength of France to a very low ebb.

His Majesty has disposed his squadrons in such a manner, as may best conduce to the annoyance of his enemies; to the defence of his own dominions both in Europe and America; and to the preserving and pursuing his conquests, as well as the protection of the trade of his subjects, which he has extremely at heart.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

Nothing could relieve his Majesty's royal mind, under the anxiety which he feels for the burdens of his faithful subjects,

but

but the public-ſpirited cheerfulneſs with which you have granted him ſuch large ſupplies, and his conviction that they are neceſſary for the ſecurity and eſſential intereſts of his kingdoms. The King has enjoined us to return you his hearty thanks for them; and to aſſure you of their due application to the purpoſes for which they have been given.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

We have nothing further in command from his Majeſty, but to recommend to you the continuance and improvement of that union and good harmony, which he has obſerved with ſo much pleaſure, and from which he has derived ſuch important effects. Make it your ſtudy to promote theſe deſirable objects; to ſupport the King's government, and the good order of your reſpective countries; and to conſult your own real happineſs and proſperity. This behaviour, his Majeſty graciouſly aſſures you, will be the moſt acceptable demonſtration of your duty to him.

After which the Lord Keeper ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurſday, the ſeventeenth day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the ſeventeenth day of July next.

His Majeſty GEORGE *the* THIRD'S *Firſt Speech, Nov.* 18, 1760.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE juſt concern, which I have felt in my own breaſt, on the ſudden death of the late King, my royal grandfather, makes me not doubt, but you muſt all have been deeply affected with ſo ſevere a loſs. The preſent critical and difficult conjuncture has made this loſs the more ſenſible, as he was the great ſupport of that ſyſtem, by which alone the liberties of Europe, and the weight and influence of theſe kingdoms, can be preſerved; and gave life to the meaſures conducive to thoſe important ends.

I need not tell you the addition of weight which immediately falls upon me, in being called to the government of this free and powerful country at ſuch a time, and under ſuch circumſtances. My conſolation is in the uprightneſs of my own intentions, your faithful and united aſſiſtance, and the bleſſing

of heaven upon our joint endeavours, which I devoutly implore.

Born and educated in this country, I glory in the name of Briton; and the peculiar happiness of my life will ever consist in promoting the welfare of a people, whose loyalty and warm affection to me I consider as the greatest and most permanent security of my throne; and I doubt not, but their steadiness in those principles will equal the firmness of my invariable resolution to adhere to, and strengthen, this excellent constitution in church and state; and to maintain the toleration inviolable. The civil and religious rights of my loving subjects are equally dear to me with the most valuable prerogatives of my crown; And, as the surest foundation of the whole, and the best means to draw down the Divine favour on my reign, it is my fixed purpose to countenance and encourage the practice of true religion and virtue.

I reflect, with pleasure, on the successes with which the British arms have been prospered this last summer. The total reduction of the vast province of Canada, with the city of Montreal, is of the most interesting consequence, and must be as heavy a blow to my enemies, as it is a conquest glorious to us; the more glorious, because effected almost without effusion of blood, and with that humanity, which makes an amiable part of the character of this nation.

Our advantages gained in the East Indies have been signal; and must greatly diminish the strength and trade of France in those parts, as well as procure the most solid benefits to the commerce and wealth of my subjects.

In Germany, where the whole French force has been employed, the combined army, under the wise and able conduct of my general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, has not only stopt their progress, but has gained advantage over them, notwithstanding their boasted superiority, and their not having hitherto come to a general engagement.

My good brother and ally, the King of Prussia, although surrounded with numerous armies of enemies, has, with a magnanimity and perseverance almost beyond example, not only withstood their various attacks, but has obtained very considerable victories over them.

Of these events I shall say no more at this time, because the nature of the war in those parts has kept the campaign there still depending.

As my navy is the principal article of our natural strength, it gives me much satisfaction to receive it in such good condition; whilst the fleet of France is weakened to such a degree, that the small remains of it have continued blocked up by my

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ſhips in their own ports; at the ſame time the French trade is reduced to the loweſt ebb; and with joy of heart I ſee the commerce of my kingdoms, that great ſource of our riches, and fixed object of my never-failing care and protection, flouriſhing to an extent unknown in any former war.

The valour and intrepidity of my officers and forces, both at ſea and land, have been diſtinguiſhed ſo much to the glory of this nation, that I ſhould be wanting in juſtice to them, if I did not acknowledge it. This is a merit which I ſhall conſtantly encourage and reward; and I take this occaſion to declare, that the zealous and uſeful ſervice of the militia, in the preſent arduous conjuncture, is very acceptable to me.

In this ſtate I have found things at my acceſſion to the throne of my anceſtors; happy in viewing the proſperous part of it; happier ſtill ſhould I have been, had I found my kingdoms, whoſe true intereſt I have entirely at heart, in full peace: but, ſince the ambition, injurious encroachments, and dangerous deſigns of my enemies, render the war both juſt and neceſſary, and the generous overture, made laſt winter, towards a congreſs for a pacification, has not yet produced a ſuitable return, I am determined, with your cheerful and powerful aſſiſtance, to proſecute this war with vigour, in order to that deſirable object, a ſafe and honourable peace. For this purpoſe it is abſolutely incumbent upon us to be early prepared; and I rely upon your zeal and hearty concurrence to ſupport the King of Pruſſia, and the reſt of my allies, and to make ample proviſion for carrying on the war, as the only means to bring our enemies to equitable terms of accommodation.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

The greateſt uneaſineſs which I feel at this time, is in conſidering the uncommon burdens neceſſarily brought upon my faithful ſubjects. I deſire only ſuch ſupplies, as ſhall be requiſite to proſecute the war with advantage, be adequate to the neceſſary ſervices, and that they may be provided for in the moſt ſure and effectual manner. You may depend upon the faithful and punctual application of what ſhall be granted. I have ordered the proper eſtimates for the enſuing year to be laid before you; and alſo an account of the extraordinary expenſes, which, from the nature of the different and remote operations, have been unavoidably incurred.

It is with peculiar reluctance that I am obliged, at ſuch a time, to mention any thing which perſonally regards myſelf: but, as the grant of the greateſt part of the civil liſt revenues is now determined, I truſt in your duty and affection to me,

to make the proper provision for supporting my civil government with honour and dignity. On my part, you may be assured of a regular and becoming œconomy.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The eyes of all Europe are upon you. From your resolutions the protestant interest hopes for protection, as well as all our friends for the preservation of their independency; and our enemies fear the final disappointment of their ambitious and destructive views. Let these hopes and fears be confirmed and augmented by the vigour, unanimity, and dispatch of your proceedings.

In this expectation I am the more encouraged by a pleasing circumstance, which I look upon as one of the most auspicious omens of my reign: that happy extinction of divisions, and that union and good harmony which continue to prevail amongst my subjects, afford me the most agreeable prospect. The natural disposition and wish of my heart are, to cement and promote them; and I promise myself, that nothing will arise, on your part, to interrupt or disturb a situation so essential to the true and lasting felicity of this great people.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, November 19, 1760.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

On this first occasion of approaching your royal person, permit us to express our unfeigned sorrow for the severe and afflicting loss, which not only this nation, but all Europe, has sustained, in the sudden death of our late excellent and most gracious sovereign, your Majesty's illustrious grandfather. The long experience which we had of his royal virtues, the benignity of his government, and his uniform care of our laws and liberties, not interrupted in any one instance during the course of so many years, demand from us the most grateful acknowledgments; and will make his memory as dear to us, as the height and splendor to which he had raised the greatness of these kingdoms, will render it glorious to all posterity.

Such a loss could only be repaired by your Majesty. And at the same time that we condole with your Majesty on this melancholy event, we beg leave to offer you our most sincere congratulations on your happy accession to the throne. As

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your Majeſty is the rightful and immediate inheritor of his crown, you are ſo of thoſe virtues with which he adorned it: and which promiſe a continuation of the ſame bleſſings to theſe kingdoms. It fills our minds with inexpreſſible joy, to ſee the pleaſing hopes we had conceived from your many princely and amiable endowments, and the early demonſtrations of your affection to this country, ſo fully verified in your firſt declarations to your Parliament.

We are penetrated with the condeſcending and endearing manner in which your Majeſty has expreſſed your ſatisfaction, in having received your birth and education amongſt us. What a luſtre does it caſt upon the name of Briton, when you, Sir, are pleaſed to eſteem it amongſt your glories!

The ſeveral paternal aſſurances which your Majeſty has vouchſafed to give us, ſpeak your reſolution to be the common father of your people. No ſtronger proof can be given of it, than by adopting this undeniable maxim, that their love is the beſt ſecurity of your throne. From this principle will naturally flow the ſtricteſt adherence to our excellent conſtitution in church and ſtate; and the maintenance of that ſureſt cement of the proteſtant intereſt in theſe kingdoms, the toleration: and we cannot but applaud your Majeſty's wiſdom and piety, in making the encouragement of true religion and virtue one of the great foundations of your government.

We adore the goodneſs of Providence, in the ſignal ſucceſſes with which we have been bleſſed this laſt ſummer. The reduction of the extenſive province of Canada, with the city of Montreal, is an event of the higheſt importance in every view; and it is no ſmall addition to the glory reſulting from it, to have ſhewn, that where the Britiſh arms carry conqueſt, they carry protection.

We look upon the great advantages gained in the Eaſt Indies, as highly beneficial to the trade of theſe kingdoms. And we have the juſteſt ſenſe of the happy conſequences derived to the operations of Great Britain in particular, as well as to the common cauſe in general, from the wiſe conduct of Prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick. After what the enemy had before experienced from his abilities, we are not ſurpriſed that they ſhould not come to a deciſive engagement.

The magnanimity and perſeverance of the King of Pruſſia will not only be the admiration of the preſent age, but of poſterity; and the noble ſtand made, and the victories obtained by that Prince, muſt be the ſtrongeſt motives to the powers engaged againſt him, to concur in the proper meaſures to reſtore the tranquillity of Europe.

The judicious sentiments which your Majesty has declared to us, concerning your royal navy, and the commerce of your subjects, are truly worthy of a British monarch, resolved to improve our natural strength, and most valuable resources. The weakening of the French force by sea to so great a degree, and the low state to which their trade is reduced, we esteem amongst the most solid benefits accruing to this nation from the expensive efforts made this war.

Your Majesty's regard for public merit shines forth in the generous notice which you are pleased to take of the valour and intrepidity of your officers and forces by sea and land. They are equally conducive to the safety and glory of our country; and your gracious acceptance of the service of the militia, as being useful in the present arduous conjuncture, will be a great encouragement to their zeal.

At the same time that we thankfully acknowledge your Majesty's tender consideration for your people, in your wishes to have found your kingdoms in full peace, we cannot but admire your wisdom in the comprehensive sense you have expressed of the causes and necessity of the present war. We are convinced that your Majesty's humane disposition makes you lament the calamities of it; whilst your greatness of mind has determined you to pursue it with vigour, in order to a safe and honourable peace, so desirable, not only to your own subjects, but to all Europe. Animated by that duty which we owe your Majesty, and by our zeal for the honour and interest of these kingdoms, we give your Majesty the strongest assurances, that we will cheerfully support you in prosecuting the war; assist the King of Prussia, and the rest of your allies; and heartily concur in all such measures as shall be necessary for the defence of your Majesty and your dominions, and for the other national and important ends which you have so fully laid before us.

The anxiety which your Majesty has so early declared for the uncommon burdens of your people, demands our sincerest thanks. Your tender concern will be an inducement to bear them the more cheerfully, and a pledge to your faithful subjects, that they shall be relieved from them as soon as the public security will in sound policy admit.

These many and eminent proofs of your Majesty's goodness, and of your fixed attention to our happiness, call upon us for the warmest returns of duty, gratitude, and affection to your sacred person and government. Our loyalty and fidelity are inviolable. Our resolution to maintain your undoubted title to this imperial crown, and the protestant succession in your illustrious house, at the hazard of our lives and fortunes, is never to

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be ſhaken. Happy ſhall we be in every inſtance whereby we may be able to contribute to the glory, proſperity, and eaſe of your reign. Your Majeſty's prudence, and the benevolence of your royal heart, have pointed out to us the moſt agreeable means of promoting theſe ends, by ſo ſtrongly inculcating the continuance of that union and good harmony which ſubſiſt amongſt your people. In doing this, your Majeſty hath ſet an inviting and powerful example to all your ſubjects, which we are determined to follow, by performing every thing on our part to ſtrengthen and improve this happy ſituation.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 19, 1760.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very loyal and dutiful addreſs. Nothing can be more agreeable to me, than your unanimous concurrence in the ſeveral weighty matters which I laid before you. The aſſurances you give me of your fidelity and affection to my perſon and government, and of your zeal for the true intereſt of your country, and for the ſupport of my allies, afford me the higheſt ſatisfaction, and will have the beſt effect both at home and abroad. It ſhall be my conſtant endeavour to anſwer the expectations which you have formed of my reign.

Addreſs to his Majeſty by the Houſe of Commons, Nov. 20, 1760.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, approach your royal preſence to expreſs the deepeſt ſenſe of the great and ſevere loſs which your Majeſty and theſe kingdoms have ſuſtained by the death of your Majeſty's royal grandfather, our late moſt excellent ſovereign, the memory of whoſe juſt and proſperous reign will be held in reverence by lateſt poſterity.

We beg leave to congratulate your Majeſty on your happy acceſſion to the throne, the only conſideration that can alleviate our grief for ſuch a loſs; the knowledge of your Majeſty's royal virtues, wiſdom, and firmneſs, opens to your faithful ſubjects the faireſt proſpect for their future happineſs at home, and for the continuance of that weight and influence of your Majeſty's crown abroad, ſo eſſentially neceſſary in this arduous and cri-

tical conjuncture, for the preservation of that system, upon which the liberties of Europe depend.

We return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne, and acknowledge with the liveliest sentiments of duty, gratitude, and exultation of mind, those most affecting and animating words of our most gracious Sovereign, that, born and educated in this country, he glories in the name of Briton; and we offer to your Majesty the full tribute of our hearts for the warm expressions of your truly royal and tender affection towards your people. We venerate and confide in those sacred assurances of your Majesty's firm and invariable resolution, to adhere to and strengthen this excellent constitution in church and state, to maintain the toleration inviolate, and to protect your faithful subjects in that greatest of human blessings, the secure enjoyment of their religious and and civil rights.

Permit us to congratulate your Majesty on the various successes which, under the protection of God, have attended the British arms during the last summer, particularly in the reduction of the city of Montreal, and the entire province of Canada, a conquest equally important and glorious, achieved with intrepidity, and closed with humanity, the genuine attributes of that British spirit, which under the benign auspices of your Majesty will, we trust, continue, by the Divine assistance, to give additional lustre to the arms of Great Britain.

This valuable and extensive acquisition, joined to the signal advantages gained in the East Indies; the flourishing state of our commerce; the respectable condition of your Majesty's navy, by which the remains of the enemy's fleet continue blocked up in their harbours, whilst their trade is almost annihilated; are considerations which fill our hearts with the most pleasing hopes that your Majesty will be thereby enabled to prosecute this just and necessary war, to that great and desirable object of establishing, in conjunction with your allies, a safe, honourable, and lasting peace.

We see with the greatest pleasure, that the progress of the French armies in Germany, notwithstanding their superiority of numbers, has been stopped, and to the honour of your Majesty's arms, their attempts hitherto baffled by the wise and able conduct of his serene highness Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick.

When we consider the stupendous efforts made in every campaign, by your Majesty's great ally the King of Prussia, the defeat of the Austrians in Silesia, and that recent and glorious victory obtained over the army commanded by Marshal Daun, we cannot sufficiently admire the invincible constancy of mind,

and inexhaustible resources of genius, displayed by that magnanimous monarch, to whom the most dangerous and difficult situations have only administered fresh occasions for glory.

Our most dutiful acknowledgments are due to your Majesty, for the mention which you have so graciously made of the distinguished valour and intrepidity of your officers and forces at sea and land, and for the declaration of your Majesty's constant resolution to encourage and reward such merit; and we return our most humble thanks to your Majesty for your favourable acceptance of the zealous and useful service of the militia in the present arduous conjuncture.

We assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons, thoroughly sensible of this important crisis, and desirous, with the Divine assistance, to render your Majesty's reign successful and glorious in war, happy and honourable in peace, (the natural return of a grateful people to a gracious and affectionate sovereign,) will concur in such measures as shall be requisite for the vigorous and effectual prosecution of the war; and that we will cheerfully and speedily grant such supplies as shall be found necessary for that purpose, and for the support of the King of Prussia, and the rest of your Majesty's allies; firmly relying on your Majesty's wisdom, goodness, and justice, that they will be applied in such a manner as will most effectually answer the ends for which they are granted, and with the utmost œconomy that the nature of such great and extensive operations will allow; and that we will make such an adequate provision for your Majesty's civil government, as may be sufficient to maintain the honour and dignity of your crown with all proper and becoming lustre.

Your Majesty's faithful Commons approach your royal person with hearts penetrated by the warmest and liveliest sense of your unbounded tenderness and concern for the welfare of your people, and rejoicing at the high satisfaction your Majesty takes in the union which so universally prevails throughout your kingdom; a deep sense of that national strength and prosperity visibly derived from this salutary source, and, above all, your Majesty's approbation of that happy union, and the natural disposition and wish of your royal heart to cement and promote it, are the strongest incentives to concord, and the surest pledge of its duration; the fixed resolution which your Majesty has declared, to countenance and encourage the practice of true religion and virtue, will, we doubt not, prove the best means of drawing down the favour of God upon a dutiful and united nation; and we shall never cease devoutly to offer up our ardent vows to the Divine Providence, that, as a recompence for these royal virtues, your Majesty may reign in the hearts of a free and

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happy people; and that they, excited by your Majesty's benevolent care to discharge your royal function, and animated by gratitude for the enjoyment of so many blessings, may make the due return by a constant obedience to your laws, and by the most steady attachment and loyalty to your person and government.

His Majesty's Answer, November 22, 1760.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my cordial thanks for this most dutiful and affectionate address, and for your warm expressions of fidelity to my person, and attention to the honour and dignity of my crown.

The unanimous assurance that you will make effectual and speedy provision for the vigorous prosecution of the war, and for the support of my allies, yield me the truest satisfaction, and will, I trust, prove the happy means of reducing the enemy to the terms of a just and honourable peace: with such zeal and harmony among my people, I have only to implore the continuance of the Divine blessings on their generous efforts, and on my ardent endeavours for the permanent felicity of my loving subjects.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, Jan. 9, 1761.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty being sensible of the zeal and vigour with which his faithful subjects in North America have exerted themselves in defence of his Majesty's just rights and possessions, recommends it to this House to take the same into consideration, and to enable his Majesty to give them a proper compensation for the expenses incurred by the respective provinces, in the levying, cloathing, and pay of the troops raised by the same, according as the active vigour and strenuous efforts of the respective provinces shall justly appear to merit.

G. R.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, Jan. 9, 1761.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty being desirous that a proper strength may be employed in the settlements of the united company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, recommends to

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this House, to enable his Majesty to assist the said company in defraying the expense of a military force in the East Indies, to be maintained by them, in lieu of the battalion commanded by Colonel Adlercron, withdrawn from thence, and now returned to Ireland.

G. R.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, March 3, 1761.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

UPON granting new commissions to the judges, the present state of their office fell naturally under consideration.

In consequence of the act, passed in the reign of my late glorious predecessor King William the Third, for settling the succession to the crown in my family, their commissions have been made during their good behaviour; but, notwithstanding that wise provision, their offices have determined upon the demise of the crown, or at the expiration of six months afterwards, in every instance of that nature which has happened.

I look upon the independency and uprightness of the judges of the land as essential to the impartial administration of justice; as one of the best securities to the rights and liberties of my loving subjects; and as most conducive to the honour of the crown: and I come now to recommend this interesting object to the consideration of Parliament, in order that such farther provision may be made for securing the judges in the enjoyment of their offices, during their good behaviour, notwithstanding any such demise, as shall be most expedient.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I must desire of you, in particular, that I may be enabled to grant and establish upon the judges such salaries as I shall think proper, so as to be absolutely secured to them during the continuance of their commissions.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing to add but my thanks for the great unanimity and application with which you have hitherto carried on the public business; and to desire you to proceed with the same good disposition, and with such dispatch, that this session may be soon brought to a happy conclusion.

Address to his Majesty by the House of Lords, March 4, 1761.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne

The tender concern which your Majesty is pleased to express for the rights and liberties of your people, and for the impartial administration of justice, fills our minds with the sincerest gratitude. We look upon your wise and just sentiments, concerning the independency and uprightness of the judges of the land, as the strongest proof of what your Majesty has formerly declared to us, in words the most affectionate that ever came from the throne, that the civil and religious rights of your subjects are equally dear to you with the most valuable of your royal prerogatives. At the same time, nothing can be a nobler instance of your true greatness of mind, than to esteem these principles, as they truly are, the most conducive to the honour of the crown.

We will not fail to take into our consideration this important object of the continuance of the judges, notwithstanding any demise of the crown; and to do every thing on our part to make your Majesty's public-spirited intentions effectual: happy in having an opportunity to do this by your Majesty's free and voluntary recommendation; and forming the most ardent vows that the event, wherein the effect of such a provision will be experienced, may, by the goodness of Providence to these kingdoms, be removed for a long course of years.

Permit us, on this occasion, to renew to your Majesty the most unfeigned assurances of our inviolable duty and affection; and to express our thankful acknowledgments for your gracious approbation of our proceedings hitherto. Nothing can equal our zeal for your Majesty's support; nor shall any thing be wanting that depends upon us to bring this session to a speedy and happy conclusion, answerable to your Majesty's just expectations.

His Majesty's Answer, March 4, 1761.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very dutiful, grateful, and unanimous address. I am very glad that what I have laid before you gives you so much satisfaction.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, March 4, 1761.

George Rex.

HIS Majesty, relying on the known zeal and affection of his faithful Commons, and considering that, in this critical conjuncture, emergencies may arise which may be of the utmost importance, and be attended with the most pernicious consequences, if proper means should not immediately be applied to prevent or defeat them, is desirous that this House will enable him to defray any extraordinary expenses of the war incurred, or to be incurred, for the service of the year 1761, and to take all such measures as may be necessary to disappoint or defeat any enterprizes or designs of his enemies, and as exigencies of affairs may require.

G. R.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, March 19, 1761.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT put an end to this session without declaring my entire satisfaction in your proceedings during the course of it. The zeal you have shewn for the honour of my crown, as well as for my true interest, and that of your country, which are ever the same, is the clearest demonstration of that duty and affection to my person and government, of which you so unanimously assured me at your first meeting. Nothing could so much add to the pleasure which these considerations afford me, as that I am now able to acquaint you with the great progress made of late by the combined army in Germany, under the command of Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick. I formerly told you, that the nature of the war in those parts had kept the campaign there still depending; and it now appears, to the surprize of my enemies, that the superior ability and indefatigable activity of my general, and the spirit and ardour of my officers and troops, have greatly profited of this perseverance, notwithstanding all the difficulties arising from the season.

By your assistance I have taken the best care to recruit that army in an effectual manner; and have made such a disposition of my fleet for the next summer, as may most advantageously defend my kingdoms, protect the commerce of my subjects, maintain and extend our possessions and acquisitions, and annoy the enemy.

As in all my measures, I have nothing in view but the security and felicity of my dominions, the support of my allies, and the

the restoring of the public tranquillity, I trust in the Divine Providence to give a happy issue to our farther operations.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I cannot sufficiently thank you for your unanimity and dispatch in providing for the expenses of my civil government, and the honour and dignity of the crown: and I think myself as much obliged to you, for the prudent use which, in framing that provision, you have made of my consent to leave my own hereditary revenues to such disposition of Parliament, as might best conduce to the utility and satisfaction of the public, as for what more immediately concerns myself.

In making my acknowledgments for the large and extensive supplies which you have granted me this session, I am at a loss whether most to applaud your cheerfulness in giving, or your wisdom in proportioning them to the extraordinary occasions of the public, notwithstanding those uncommon burdens which I heartily regret. No care shall be wanting on my part to see them duly applied to the national ends for which you intended them.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The expiration of this Parliament now drawing very near, I will forthwith give the necessary orders for calling a new one. But I cannot take my leave of you without returning my thanks for the many eminent proofs you have given of your fidelity and affection to my family and government, and of your zeal for this happy and excellent constitution.

During this Parliament, the flame of war was kindled by the injurious encroachments and usurpations of our enemies; and therefore it became just and necessary on our part. In the prosecution of it, you have given such support to my royal grandfather and myself, and such assistance to our allies, as have manifested your public-spirited concern for the honour of the nation, and the maintenance of its undoubted rights and possessions, and been attended with glorious successes, and great acquisitions, in various parts of the world, particularly in the entire reduction of Canada, a conquest of the utmost importance to the security of our colonies in North America, and to the extension of the commerce and navigation of my subjects.

May God Almighty grant continuance to these successes! the use which I propose to make of them, is to secure and promote the welfare of my kingdoms, and to carry on the war with vigour, in order to procure to them the blessings of peace on safe and honourable conditions for me and my allies, to which I have been always ready to hearken.

Firm

Firm in these resolutions, I do with entire confidence rely on the good dispositions of my faithful subjects in the choice of their representatives; and I make no doubt but they will thereby demonstrate the sincerity of those assurances which have been so cordially and universally given me, in the loyal, affectionate, and unanimous addresses of my people.

And afterwards the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the seventh day of April next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the seventh day of April next.

Speech by the Speaker of the House of Commons, Nov. 6, 1761.

Most gracious Sovereign,

YOUR Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, have, in obedience to your Majesty's commands, and according to their ancient right, proceeded to the election of one of their members to be their Speaker; whom they now present to your Majesty: but, Sir, with the utmost concern must I acquaint your Majesty, that out of so many amongst them, eminently qualified for this important station, their choice has fallen upon me.

Under the apprehensions of my mind, arising from a consciousness of my own inability to discharge, as I ought, so great a trust, I have this satisfaction, that I can now be an humble suitor to your Majesty, that you would give your faithful Commons an opportunity of rectifying this, the only inadvertent step which they can ever take, and be graciously pleased to direct them to present some other to your Majesty, whom they may not hereafter be sorry to have chosen, nor your Majesty to have approved.

I do not presume, Sir, to make this request to your Majesty on my own account; it is for the sake of your Majesty's service, the sake of your faithful Commons, and what will ever be most dear to you, Sir, the interests of your whole people, that those arduous and urgent affairs, which have induced your Majesty to call this Parliament, may receive no prejudice through my defects; nor the zealous endeavours of your faithful Commons for

for the ſervice of your Majeſty and their country, be in any wiſe obſtructed through this their partiality to me.

Then the Lord Chancellor, after receiving directions from his Majeſty, ſaid,

Sir JOHN CUST,

I AM commanded by his Majeſty to acquaint you, that although your own modeſty may prompt you to decline ſo important an office as that into which you are elected, yet he hath ſo good an opinion of your integrity, diligence, and ſufficiency for executing the higheſt truſt, that his Majeſty is perfectly ſatisfied with the choice the Houſe of Commons have made, and doth allow and confirm you to be their Speaker.

Then Mr. Speaker ſaid,

IT is my duty, Sir, to ſubmit myſelf to your Majeſty's pleaſure, and no longer to decline that ſervice which your Majeſty is graciouſly pleaſed to think me capable of undertaking.

Permit me, Sir, with my moſt dutiful acknowledgments to your Majeſty, for this mark of your royal grace and favour, to aſſure your Majeſty of my utmoſt endeavours faithfully to diſcharge this truſt to the beſt of my ſmall abilities; and if I fail not in uprightneſs of heart and zeal for your Majeſty's and the public ſervice, I entirely rely upon your Majeſty's goodneſs to pardon all my failings and involuntary errors, at leaſt, that they may not be imputed to your faithful Commons. That they, Sir, may be the better enabled to perform their duty to your Majeſty and their country, I do, in their name and on their behalf, by humble petition to your Majeſty, lay claim to all their ancient rights and privileges; particularly, that their perſons, their ſervants, and eſtates, may be free from arreſts, ſuits, and all moleſtation: that they may have liberty of ſpeech, for the better management of their debates; acceſs to your royal perſon on all ſeaſonable occaſions, and that their proceedings may receive from your Majeſty the moſt favourable interpretation.

Then the Lord Chancellor, after receiving further directions from his Majeſty, ſaid,

Mr. Speaker,

THE King hath the greateſt confidence in the duty and affection of this Houſe of Commons to his perſon and government, and in the wiſdom, temper, and prudence which will

accompany all their proceedings; and his Majesty doth readily and willingly grant and allow them all their privileges, in as full and ample a manner as they have at any time been granted and allowed by any of his royal predecessors. As to that part of your request which personally relates to yourself, that you may enter into this weighty office, with proper confidence and satisfaction, I am commanded by his Majesty to acquaint you, that he will make the most favourable construction of all your words and actions.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, November 6, 1761.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AT the opening of the first Parliament, summoned and elected under my authority, I with pleasure take notice of an event which has made me completely happy, and given universal joy to my loving subjects. My marriage with a princess eminently distinguished by every virtue and amiable endowment, whilst it affords me all possible domestic comfort, cannot but highly contribute to the happiness of my kingdoms, which has been, and always shall be, my first object in every action of my life.

It has been my earnest wish that this first period of my reign might be marked with another felicity, the restoring of the blessings of peace to my people, and putting an end to the calamities of war, under which so great a part of Europe suffers. But though overtures were made to me and my good brother and ally the King of Prussia, by the several belligerent powers, in order to a general pacification, for which purpose a congress was appointed, and propositions were made to me by France for a particular peace with that crown, which were followed by an actual negociation; yet that congress hath not hitherto taken place, and the negociation with France is entirely broken off.

The sincerity of my disposition to effectuate this good work has been manifested in the progress of it, and I have the consolation to reflect that the continuance of the war and the further effusion of christian blood, to which it was the desire of my heart to put a stop, cannot with justice be imputed to me.

Our military operations have been in no degree suspended or delayed; and it has pleased God to grant us farther important successes by the conquests of the islands of Belleisle and Dominica, and by the reduction of Pondicherry, which hath in a manner annihilated the French power in the East Indies. In other parts, where the enemy's numbers were greatly superior, their

their principal designs and projects have been generally disappointed by a conduct which does the highest honour to the distinguished capacity of my general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, and by the valour of my troops. The magnanimity and ability of the King of Prussia have eminently appeared in resisting such numerous armies, and surmounting so great difficulties.

In this situation I am glad to have an opportunity of receiving the truest information of the sense of my people, by a new choice of their representatives. I am fully persuaded you will agree with me in opinion that the steady exertion of our most vigorous efforts, in every part where the enemy may still be attacked with advantage, is the only means that can be productive of such a peace as may with reason be expected from our successes. It is therefore my fixed resolution, with your concurrence and support, to carry on the war in the most effectual manner for the interest and advantage of my kingdoms; and to maintain, to the utmost of my power, the good faith and honour of my crown, by adhering firmly to the engagements entered into with my allies. In this I will persevere until my enemies, moved by their own losses and distresses, and touched with the miseries of so many nations, shall yield to the equitable conditions of an honourable peace; in which case, as well as in the prosecution of the war, I do assure you no consideration whatever shall make me depart from the true interests of these my kingdoms, and the honour and dignity of my crown.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I am heartily sorry that the necessity of large supplies appears so clearly from what has already been mentioned. The proper estimates for the services of the ensuing year shall be laid before you, and I desire you to grant me such supplies as may enable me to prosecute the war with vigour, and as your own welfare and security in the present critical conjuncture require, that we may happily put the last hand to this great work. Whatsoever you give shall be duly and faithfully applied.

I dare say your affectionate regard for me and the Queen makes you go before me in what I am next to mention, the making an adequate and honourable provision for her support, in case she should survive me. This is what not only her royal dignity, but her own merit calls for; and I earnestly recommend it to your consideration.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have such a confidence in the zeal and good affections of this Parliament, that I think it quite superfluous to use any exhortations

exhortations to excite you to a right conduct. I will only add, that there never was a situation in which unanimity, firmness, and dispatch were more necessary for the safety, honour, and true interest of Great Britain.

Address to his Majesty by the House of Lords, Nov. 7, 1761.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

It is impossible to approach your royal presence at this time without making our first offering to your Majesty of our most joyful congratulations on the auspicious occasion of your royal nuptials. We want words to describe how warmly we are affected with an event so highly interesting to your Majesty and to all your faithful subjects, or to express our gratitude to your Majesty for giving us a Queen, who, whilst she completes your happiness, promises, by every virtue and amiable accomplishment, the greatest addition to that of your people. May Heaven grant the longest duration to this felicity! And may it be attended with a numerous progeny, to transmit the great examples of their illustrious parents, and perpetuate the blessings of your reign to future ages.

We thankfully acknowledge your Majesty's goodness in communicating to us that overtures had been made by the several belligerent powers, in order to a general pacification; and by France for a particular peace between your Majesty and that crown; whereupon a negociation had followed, which is since entirely broke off. No other proof could be wanting to us, that the continuance of the war and the effusion of christian blood, cannot, with any shadow of justice, be imputed to your Majesty, besides the known generosity and benevolence of your own innate disposition.

Your royal wisdom has appeared in nothing more than in not suffering your military operations to be suspended or delayed: and we beg leave to congratulate your Majesty on the present signal successes of your arms. Besides the important conquests with which they have been blessed, your enemies have, in other parts, been made once more to feel that superior numbers cannot avail them against the superior capacity and conduct of your consummate general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, and the unshaken bravery of your officers and troops. We cannot see without admiration, those repeated proofs of magnanimity and

 ability

ability which your great ally, the King of Pruſſia, though ſurrounded with ſo many difficulties, has given to the world.

Your Majeſty's ſentiments cannot fail to have the greateſt weight with us, becauſe we are ſure that they proceed upon wiſe principles, founded in the love of your people. It is therefore from conviction that we declare our humble concurrence in your opinion, that it is neceſſary ſteadily to exert our moſt vigorous efforts in every part where the enemy may ſtill be attacked with advantage.

We beg your Majeſty to accept the ſtrongeſt and moſt affectionate aſſurances, that we will with the greateſt zeal and ardour, and at the hazard of every thing that is dear to us, ſtand by and ſupport your Majeſty in proſecuting the war in the moſt effectual manner for the intereſt of your kingdoms, and in performing to the utmoſt of your power, your engagements to your allies; nothing being more evident than that this is the only method to procure ſuch equitable and honourable conditions of peace, as may with reaſon be expected from our ſucceſſes.

We ſhould be greatly wanting to ourſelves, as well as to your Majeſty, if we did not teſtify our particular thanks for your paternal goodneſs, in having ſo expreſsly declared that both in carrying on the war and in making peace, no conſideration whatſoever ſhall make you depart from the true intereſts of theſe your kingdoms, and the honour of your crown.

This reſolution, ſo truly worthy of a Britiſh monarch, and ſo engaging to all your royal ſubjects, calls for adequate returns on our part. Penetrated with the livelieſt ſenſe of your unbounded tenderneſs and concern for our welfare, we do from the bottom of our hearts aſſure your Majeſty, that we will with the utmoſt duty and zeal correſpond to that confidence which your Majeſty repoſes in us, being fully perſuaded of the neceſſity of unanimity, firmneſs, and diſpatch, in the preſent critical ſituation, and animated thereto by the gracious admonition of the beſt of kings.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 7, 1761.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and loyal addreſs. The joy which you expreſs upon my marriage, and your affectionate regard for the Queen, give me the higheſt ſatisfaction. I make no doubt but your ready concurrence in my ſentiments, and the becoming zeal which you have ſo unanimouſly declared for carrying on the war with vigour, will have a good effect

both

both upon our friends and enemies, and ſtrengthen my hands to purſue ſuch meaſures as may be moſt conducive to the true intereſts of my kingdoms.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Commons to his Majeſty, Nov. 14, 1761.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty the moſt humble and hearty thanks of this Houſe for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Permit us at the ſame time to offer to your Majeſty our warmeſt congratulations on the joyful and auſpicious event of your royal nuptials, with a princeſs deſcended from an illuſtrious proteſtant line, diſtinguiſhed by the moſt eminent graces and endowments, and worthy to be the partner of your royal throne, by poſſeſſing every virtue that can adorn it.

We beg leave alſo to expreſs our juſt ſenſe of that affectionate regard which your Majeſty has ſhewn for your people, by conſulting, on this moſt important and intereſting occaſion, as on every other, their happineſs, and that of their poſterity; and we aſſure your Majeſty that with hearts full of gratitude for this ſignal inſtance of your royal attention to the welfare of your ſubjects, and thoroughly ſenſible of the exalted merit of your illuſtrious conſort, your faithful Commons will not fail to make ſuch honourable and ample proviſion as may enable her to ſupport her royal dignity with proper luſtre, in caſe ſhe ſhall ſurvive your Majeſty, for the long continuance of whoſe life we ſhall never ceaſe to offer up to the Divine Providence our moſt ardent vows.

Allow us, Sir, to return our ſincere and humble thanks to your Majeſty for your tender concern for the proſperity of your people, in wiſhing to reſtore to them the bleſſings of peace; and to declare that we cannot too much admire that humanity ſo becoming your royal breaſt, which amidſt the ſucceſſes of your own kingdoms feels for the calamities of other nations.

We are fully perſuaded that theſe beneficent diſpoſitions which induced your Majeſty to conſent to the appointment of a congreſs for a general pacification, and to enter into a negociation with France for a particular peace, could not have failed of the deſired effect, if the enemy, influenced by the ſame motives, had ſhewn the ſame good intentions, and would have

 complied

complied with ſuch conditions as were requiſite for the accompliſhment of that ſalutary work.

We do moſt gratefully acknowledge your Majeſty's vigilance and firmneſs, in not ſuffering the hopes or expectations of peace to produce the leaſt ſuſpenſe or relaxation in the exertion of your arms, and we congratulate your Majeſty on thoſe happy ſucceſſes which, under the good providence of God, we muſt aſcribe to the wiſdom and vigour of your Majeſty's meaſures; to which we owe the reduction of Dominica, the conqueſt of Belleiſle, achieved with ſo much reputation to the Britiſh arms, and the deſtruction of the enemy's power in the Eaſt Indies, by the acquiſition of Pondicherry, their laſt remaining ſettlement of any ſtrength in thoſe countries.

The wiſe and able conduct of his ſerene Highneſs Prince Ferdinand of Brunſwick, whereby he hath ſucceſſively defeated the projects of the enemy, and hath prevented their making that progreſs which, from their ſuperior numbers, they expected, together with that gracious approbation which your Majeſty hath been pleaſed to expreſs of the valour of your troops, cannot but give the higheſt ſatisfaction to your faithful Commons, and they ſee with juſt admiration, the repeated proofs in every campaign, of that unſhaken reſolution, and of thoſe aſtoniſhing efforts which alone could have enabled your Majeſty's great ally, the King of Pruſſia, to reſiſt the numerous forces of his enemies.

We beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty of our entire concurrence and ſupport in the moſt effectual proſecution of the war, for the intereſt and advantage of theſe kingdoms, and in maintaining, to the utmoſt of our power, the good faith and honour of your Majeſty's crown, and the engagements entered into with your allies; and that we are truly ſenſible that the conſtant care and attention of your Majeſty to purſue the moſt vigorous meaſures in every part where any ſucceſsful impreſſion can ſtill be made upon the enemy, are the only means to attain that deſirable object, an honourable and a laſting peace.

We receive with the deepeſt gratitude that moſt endearing expreſſion of your Majeſty's unbounded goodneſs and affection towards this your native country, in the ſolemn declaration which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to make, that as well in the proſecution of the war as in the concluſion of the peace, no conſideration whatever ſhall induce you to depart from the true intereſts of theſe your kingdoms, and from the honour and dignity of your crown.

Your Majeſty may be aſſured that your faithful Commons will cheerfully grant ſuch ſupplies as the nature and extent of the

the several services shall be found to require, firmly relying on your Majesty's wisdom and justice, that they will be applied with the strictest oeconomy, and in such a manner as may most effectually answer the great ends for which they shall be granted.

We do with great truth assure your Majesty that it is our most earnest desire, that this first Parliament, convened by your royal authority, may, by their conduct, give your Majesty a happy proof of the zeal, the loyalty, and the affection of your people.

Sensible of the difficult crisis in which we are assembled, we are determined to concur with the greatest firmness and unanimity, in whatever may contribute to the public welfare, may tend to defeat the views and expectations of our enemies, and may convince the world that there are no difficulties which your Majesty's wisdom and perseverance, with the assistance of your Parliament, cannot surmount.

His Majesty's Answer, November 17, 1761.

Gentlemen;

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very affectionate and loyal address. The early proofs of your most cordial attachment to me and my family upon the occasion of my marriage, and the particular regard and attention which you express for the Queen, in a matter that so nearly concerns her, cannot but give me the most sensible satisfaction. The assurances of your steady and vigorous support must add the greatest weight to my endeavours for the public good, and will be the surest means of bringing the war in which we are engaged, to such a conclusion as is the constant object of my wishes, and will most effectually provide for the honour, happiness, and security of my kingdoms.

The humble Address of the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation assembled, presented to his Majesty on Wednesday, the eighteenth Day of November, 1761.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy of the province of Canterbury, in Convocation assembled, embrace with the greatest pleasure this first opportunity of congratulating your Majesty, in a body, on your accession to the throne of your royal

royal grandfather, whose memory will ever be honoured by us, and on your auspicious marriage to a protestant princess of your illustrious extraction, most amiable accomplishments, and excellent dispositions.

We return your Majesty our sincerest thanks for your early promise, that you will make it the business of your life to preserve and strengthen the constitution in church and state. To the whole of that constitution we are zealously attached, and our attachment comprehends the steadiest fidelity to our Majesty, the deepest reverence for the laws of our country, the tenderest regard to the rights of private judgment, and the truest value for rational liberty, in religious as well as in civil concerns.

Permit us also to express our most cordial acknowledgments of your Majesty's goodness, in publishing immediately a proclamation for the encouragement of piety and virtue, and for preventing and punishing profaneness and immorality. Your Majesty's constant good example proves how seriously you have at heart these inestimable purposes, and this declared resolution of discountenancing wickedness in all persons, of whatsoever degree or quality, and distinguishing the pious and virtuous by marks of your royal favour, must, as occasions of acting upon it occur to your Majesty, contribute powerfully to produce that general reformation in your dominions which is so greatly wanted.

For we humbly represent to your Majesty, as we are bound, that the mildness of our laws, and the lenity used in the execution of them, are blessings which licentiousness hath grievously abused: that intemperance, debauchery, and irreligious discourse abound; that the worship of God is lamentably neglected; that the Lord's day is openly disregarded and profaned; and that books, pamphlets, and papers, are vended with impunity, the plain design of which is to make the gospel of Christ an object of scorn, and promote such impious notions and flagitious behaviour as tend to the destruction of human society.

These are enormities for which conscience cannot be pleaded, and which the wisdom of all states hath judged it necessary to restrain. We firmly trust that your Majesty's authority will be exerted, as far as it is requisite, against them; and likewise against the unwearied endeavours which the emissaries of the church of Rome, presuming on the indulgence exercised with a truly christian spirit towards the members of their communion, most ungratefully employ to infuse into the minds of your Majesty's subjects, falsehoods inconsistent with the fundamental principles of the British government.

We

We solemnly assure your Majesty, that we will each of us in our several stations attentively perform whatever is incumbent on us in relation to these matters; that we will faithfully oppose every dangerous error, diligently teach every needful truth, and shew ourselves in all things patterns of good works. We will also, whenever your Majesty shall think it a fit season, be ready with much thankfulness and caution against giving offence, to consider jointly of such provisions as may conduce to the better direction of our brethren of the clergy, and the greater edification of the flocks committed to our care.

In the mean time, we heartily bless God for the many singular advantages that we enjoy under your Majesty's fatherly protection: and we earnestly pray him to give such further success to your arms, as may secure a beneficial and lasting peace; to grant you a long and prosperous reign over a people to be worthy of it, and to crown you with all domestic as well as public happiness in this world, and with eternal felicity in the next.

His Majesty's Answer, November 18, 1761.

My Lords, and the rest of the Clergy,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and loyal address. The affectionate expressions which it contains of your regard towards the Queen, and your zeal for the support and honour of my government, are highly acceptable to me. You may rely upon my constant resolution to maintain the excellent constitution of the church of England as by law established, to discourage vice and immorality; and to enforce, by every method in my power, all due obedience to the precepts of our most holy religion.

Speech by the Speaker of the House of Commons, Dec. 2, 1761.

Most gracious Sovereign,

IT has been the first care of your faithful Commons, to take into their consideration what your Majesty most affectionately recommended to them from the throne, namely, the enabling your Majesty to make that provision for the Queen, in case she shall survive you, to which her royal dignity, and her own merit, give her the justest claim.

On such an occasion I should ill discharge the trust which has lately been reposed in me by the Commons, and most graciously confirmed by your Majesty, if I omitted to assure you, that they feel the warmest sentiments of gratitude to your Majesty,

jeſty, who have made their happineſs, and that of their poſterity, your principal object: of this your Majeſty has given abundant proof, by your royal nuptials with a princeſs whoſe illuſtrious anceſtors were early aſſertors of the civil and religious liberties of mankind; and, in conſequence, cloſely attached to your Majeſty's family; a princeſs, whom the moſt diſtinguiſhed virtues, and amiable endowments, pointed out to your Majeſty's choice, and made the partner of the brighteſt crown in Europe.

I cannot but eſteem it a very ſingular honour and happineſs to myſelf, that the firſt bill, which by command of the Commons I preſent to your Majeſty, is a bill in which they have, with the greateſt zeal and unanimity, endeavoured to teſtify their duty to your Majeſty and your royal conſort; and that it is no leſs acceptable to your Majeſty than to your Commons, and all whom they repreſent.

But, Sir, though they have paſſed it with the utmoſt expedition which their forms allow, yet it is matter of real ſatisfaction to them, that they can entertain the moſt pleaſing and well-founded hope that it will be a long courſe of years before it can have any effect; and the domeſtic happineſs of the Queen is ſo inſeparably connected with the public intereſts of your people, that, on behalf of her Majeſty, as well as of every ſubject of your realm, your faithful Commons will never ceaſe to implore the Almighty, that he will be pleaſed to diſtinguiſh this nation by his Divine favour and protection, in prolonging your Majeſty's happy reign beyond an ordinary date; and that, if ever the proviſion of this bill ſhall become effectual, it may be lamented only by their poſterity.

The bill, Sir, which I have in my hand, is intituled,

" An Act for enabling his Majeſty to make Proviſion for ſupporting the royal dignity of the Queen, in caſe ſhe ſhall ſurvive his Majeſty."

To which your Commons, with all humility, beſeech your Majeſty's royal aſſent.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, Jan. 19, 1762.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE ſo often aſſured you of my ſincere diſpoſition to put an end to the calamities of the war, and to reſtore the public tranquillity on ſolid and laſting foundations, that no impartial perſon, either at home or abroad, can ſuſpect me of unneceſſarily kindling a new war in Europe. But it is with concern I acquaint you, that ſince your receſs I have found myſelf indiſ-

penſably

pensably obliged to declare war against Spain. The causes are set forth in my public declaration on this occasion; and therefore I shall not detain you with a repetition of them. My own conduct since my accession to the throne, as well as that of the late King, my royal grandfather, towards Spain, has been so full of good-will and friendship, so averse to the laying hold of several just grounds of complaint, which might have been alledged, and so attentive to the advantages of the Catholic King and his family, that it was matter of the greatest surprise to me, to find that engagements had, in this conjuncture, been entered into between that crown and France; and a treaty made to unite all the branches of the house of Bourbon, in the most ambitious and dangerous designs against the commerce and independency of the rest of Europe, and particularly of my kingdoms.

Whatever colours may be endeavoured to be put upon these injurious proceedings of the court of Madrid, I have nothing to reproach myself with; and, though I have left nothing untried that could have prevented this rupture, I have thought it necessary to prepare against every event.

I therefore rely on the Divine blessing on the justice of my cause, the zealous and powerful assistance of my faithful subjects, and the concurrence of my allies, who must find themselves involved in the pernicious and extensive projects of my enemies.

I leave these considerations with you, full of the justest confidence, that the honour of my crown, and the interests of my kingdoms, are safe in your hands.

Address by the House of Lords, Jan. 20, 1762.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We have had so many proofs of your Majesty's paternal love of your people, and of the goodness and true greatness which inspire your royal breast, that we are fully convinced of your Majesty's sincere desire to put an end to the calamities of war; and that your Majesty has left nothing untried, in order to avoid, if possible, the necessity of extending it. We cannot therefore but express the utmost surprize and indignation at the injurious and unprovoked proceedings of the court of Spain, which have rendered ineffectual your Majesty's salutary endea-
vours;

vours; and particularly at the late engagements entered into between that crown and France, so inconsistent with their solemn and repeated professions of amity, so contrary to the treaties actually subsisting between your Majesty and the Catholic King; and so prejudicial, not only to the true interest of these kingdoms, but also of the Spanish nation itself.

With hearts full of gratitude we acknowledge your Majesty's wisdom and vigilance for the security of your people, in taking effectual care, at the same time that the preventing of a rupture was the great object of your Majesty's attention, to be prepared, however, and ready for every event.

Animated with the warmest zeal for the defence of the honour of your Majesty's crown, and the undoubted rights of your people, though free from any view of encroaching on those of other nations, we have a lively sense of the dangers which threaten your Majesty's kingdoms, as well as the commerce and independency of the rest of Europe, from the ambitious and extensive designs of the confederacy now formed between the several branches of the house of Bourbon; and we beseech your Majesty to accept the strongest and most affectionate assurances, that we will, with the utmost ardour, assist and support your Majesty in repelling and suppressing the pernicious effects so greatly to be apprehended from this union; and that we will readily concur in such measures as may enable your Majesty to prosecute the war with vigour, until just and honourable conditions of peace can be obtained.

His Majesty's Answer, January 20, 1762.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this address. The affectionate assurances you give me of your support and assistance in the vigorous prosecution of this necessary war, are very agreeable to me, and cannot fail of producing the most salutary effects.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, May 11, 1762.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty, relying on the known zeal and affection of his faithful Commons, and considering that in this conjuncture emergencies may arise which may be of the utmost importance, and be attended with the most pernicious consequences, if proper means should not immediately be applied

to prevent or defeat them: and his Majesty also taking into his most serious consideration the imminent danger with which the kingdom of Portugal, an ancient and natural ally of his crown, is threatened by the powers now in open war with his Majesty, and of what importance the preservation of that kingdom is to the commercial interests of this country, is desirous that this House will enable him to defray any extraordinary expenses of the war incurred, or to be incurred, for the service of the year 1762; and to take all such measures as may be necessary to disappoint or defeat any enterprizes or designs of his enemies, against his Majesty, or his allies; and as the exigency of affairs may require.

G. R.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 2, 1762.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE public business for which you were assembled being now happily concluded, the advanced season of the year calls upon me to put an end to this session of Parliament; which I cannot do without expressing the highest approbation of the zeal, unanimity, and dispatch which have so signally appeared in the course of your proceedings.

At the opening of this session I informed you, that it had been my earnest wish to restore the blessings of peace to my people; but that it was my fixed resolution, with your concurrence and support, to carry on the war in the most effectual manner, till that desirable object could be obtained upon equitable and honourable conditions. My sentiments, in both these respects, continue invariably the same, and I have the satisfaction to find them confirmed by the unanimous voice of my Parliament.

The declaration which motives of humanity have engaged the Emperor of Russia to make to all the courts in that alliance, and the great and happy change in the situation of my ally, the King of Prussia, give us just reason to hope that the other belligerent powers may be induced to entertain the same pacific dispositions.

On the other hand, our rupture with Spain, notwithstanding my utmost endeavours to prevent it, and the violent and unprovoked attack with which the dominions of my ancient ally, the King of Portugal, are threatened, sufficiently evince the wisdom and necessity of that firmness and resolution in my Parliament, which have enabled me to continue our military operations without the least interruption or delay; and considerably to augment my fleets and armies in those parts in which

which our enemies can be most sensibly distressed. The signal success of my arms in the conquest of Martinico, and the acquisition of many other valuable settlements in the West Indies, have, under the blessing of God, been the happy consequences of these measures. I trust in the Divine Providence that they will be attended with still farther advantages until the powers at war with us shall be disposed to such terms of accommodation as the dignity and just rights of my crown, the future security and commercial interests of my subjects, will permit me to accept.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

When I consider the ample supplies which you have granted, I cannot but lament the heavy burdens which the necessities of the public service have obliged you to impose upon my people. From this consideration I have endeavoured, in every instance, to restrain my demands within as narrow bounds as the difficulties in which I found myself involved would allow. From the same motive my utmost care shall be employed to exert the most exact œconomy, consistent with the safety of my kingdoms, and the good faith and honour of my crown.

I return you my particular thanks for the proof which you have given of your regard to me and to my family, in the ample provision you have made for the Queen; whose virtues, and affection to this country, will, I am confident, be found to deserve it.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have the fullest persuasion that you will continue to diffuse in your several counties that spirit of concord which you have yourselves so steadily exerted in Parliament: and you may be assured that I will, on my part, return your zeal and affection for my person and government by a constant attention to whatever may contribute to the ease of my subjects; and that it is my ardent wish to found the glories of my reign on the union of my people, and on the welfare and prosperity of these my kingdoms.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued until Thursday, the fifteenth day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the fifteenth day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, November 25, 1762.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I FOUND, on my accession to the throne, these my kingdoms engaged in a bloody and expensive war. I resolved to prosecute it with the utmost vigour; determined, however, to consent to peace upon just and honourable terms, whenever the events of war should incline the enemy to the same pacific disposition.

A negotiation was accordingly begun last year which proved ineffectual. The war became afterwards more general, by the resolution of the court of Madrid to take part with my enemy, notwithstanding my best endeavours to prevent it.

This, with the unexpected attack of my natural and good ally, the King of Portugal, greatly affected our commerce, multiplied the objects of our military operations, and increased our difficulties, by adding to the heavy burthens under which this country already laboured.

My object still continued the same, to attain an honourable peace, by pursuing this more extensive war in the most vigorous manner. I embraced, therefore, an occasion offered me, of renewing the negotiation; but at the same time I exerted so effectually the strength which you had put into my hands, and have been so well served by my fleets and armies in the execution of my plans, that history cannot furnish examples of greater glory, or greater advantages acquired by the arms of this or any other nation in so short a period of time. My general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, and my army in Germany, have gained immortal honour by many signal advantages obtained during the course of this campaign over an enemy superior in numbers. The progress of the French and Spanish arms in Portugal has been stopped; and that kingdom preserved by the firmness and resolution of its sovereign, and by the military talents of the reigning Count La Lippe, seconded by the valour of the troops under his command. Martinico, and other islands in the West Indies, have been conquered; the Havannah, a place of the utmost importance to Spain, is in my possession, and with it great treasures, and a very considerable part of the navy of Spain are fallen into our hands.

I cannot mention these achievements, which reflect such honour on my crown, without giving my public testimony to the unwearied perseverance and unparalleled bravery of my officers and private men, by sea and land; who, by repeated proofs

proofs have ſhewn, that no climate, no hardſhips, no dangers can check the ardor, or reſiſt the valour of the Britiſh arms.

Next to the aſſiſtance of Almighty God, it is owing to their conduct and courage that my enemies have been brought to accept of peace on ſuch terms, as, I truſt, will give my Parliament entire ſatiſfaction. Preliminary articles have been ſigned by my miniſter with thoſe of France and Spain, which I will order in due time to be laid before you.

The conditions of theſe are ſuch, that there is not only an immenſe territory added to the empire of Great Britain, but a ſolid foundation laid for the increaſe of trade and commerce; and the utmoſt care has been taken to remove all occaſions of future diſputes between my ſubjects and thoſe of France and Spain, and thereby to add ſecurity and permanency to the bleſſings of peace.

While I carefully attended to the eſſential intereſts of my own kingdoms, I have had the utmoſt regard to the good faith of my crown, and the intereſts of my allies. I have made peace for the King of Portugal, ſecuring to him all his dominions; and all the territories of the King of Pruſſia, as well as of my other allies in Germany, or elſewhere, occupied by the armies of France, are to be immediately evacuated.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the proper eſtimates to be laid before you; and ſhall, without delay, proceed to make reductions to the utmoſt extent wherever they may be found conſiſtent with wiſdom and ſound policy. It is the greateſt affliction for me to find, that, though the war is at an end, our expenſes cannot immediately be ſo much leſſened as I deſire; but as nothing could have carried us through the great and arduous difficulties ſurrounding us, but the moſt vigorous and expenſive efforts, we muſt expect, for ſome time, to feel the conſequences of them to a conſiderable degree.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It was impoſſible to execute what this nation has ſo glorioſly performed in all parts of the world, without the loſs of great numbers of men. When you conſider this loſs, whether on the principles of policy or humanity, you will ſee one of the many reaſons which induced me to enter early into negotiation, ſo as to make a conſiderable progreſs in it, before the fate of many operations was determined; and now to haſten the concluſion of it, to prevent the neceſſity of making preparations for another campaign. As by this peace my territories are greatly augmented, and new ſources opened for

trade and manufactures, it is my earnest desire that you would consider of such methods in the settlements of our new acquisitions, as shall most effectually tend to the security of those countries, and to the improvement of the commerce and navigation of Great Britain. I cannot mention our acquisitions without earnestly recommending to your care and attention my gallant subjects by whose valour they were made.

We could never have carried on this extensive war without the greatest union at home. You will find the same union peculiarly necessary, in order to make the best use of the great advantages acquired by the peace, and to lay the foundation of that œconomy which we owe to ourselves and to our posterity, and which can alone relieve this nation from the heavy burdens brought upon it by the necessities of this long and expensive war.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Nov. 26, 1762.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us, Sir, to take this earliest opportunity to entreat your Majesty to accept our most sincere and fervent congratulations on the birth of an heir to your crown, which adds to your Majesty's domestic happiness, and endears your royal consort to the people of these realms; and promises that, under a prince formed to the arts of government by your Majesty's royal example, the civil and religious liberties, the glory, the commerce, and the power of Great Britain, will be transmitted to posterity.

It is with the utmost gratitude that we acknowledge your Majesty's unwearied attention to the prosperity and happiness of your people; which made your Majesty constantly solicitous, even amidst the glory of your victories, to deliver them from the burdens of war by a just and honourable peace. At the same time we cannot but admire the wisdom which pointed out to your Majesty the most vigorous efforts as the surest means of procuring this blessing for your people.

We beg leave to offer your Majesty our humble congratulations on the signal successes which have attended your Majesty's arms in the course of the present year; on the reduction of the strong island of Martinico; on the conquest of the Havannah, the bulwark of the Spanish colonies, and on the acquisition of so much treasure, and of so great a part of the

Spanish

Spanish marine; on the many advantages obtained in Germany over the arms of France, although superior in numbers, by the able conduct of your Majesty's general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, and by the valour of the troops under his command; and on the preservation of Portugal from the dangers which threatened instantly to overwhelm that kingdom, and which could not have been so long withstood but by the firmness of its sovereign, by the military talents of the reigning Count La Lippe, and by the valour of the troops employed in that service. These achievements must be acknowledged to be equal to whatever has been performed in any former year even of this prosperous war, though a new enemy necessarily made our military operations more extensive, and added new difficulties to those we struggled with before: achievements which reflect the highest honour on the councils that planned them, on the commanders who carried them into execution, and on the fleets and armies whose intrepidity no dangers could dismay.

Allow us to express, in the most fervent and grateful manner, our joy and congratulations, that by these repeated efforts your Majesty has at length compelled your enemies to consent to terms of peace, as well as to offer to your Majesty our sincere thanks, for your having informed your Parliament that preliminary articles are already signed by your Majesty's minister, and by those of France and Spain; for your Majesty's most gracious assurances, that you will cause these articles in due time to be laid before them; and for the lights your Majesty has been pleased to give concerning the conditions of them, which afford to your people the fairest prospect of future happiness, prosperity, and security.

Your Majesty may be assured, that we will not fail on our part to take, as soon as possible, into our consideration, the proper methods for the settlement of our new acquisitions, for improving their commerce, and thereby rendering them useful to the mother country. Truly sensible of the merits of those gallant men by whose valour these acquisitions have been made, we shall be ready to concur in every reasonable proposition for rewarding them; lamenting at the same time, as we do, the loss of so many of our fellow subjects, by which the national strength is greatly impaired. We cannot sufficiently admire that wisdom which seized the fortunate hour of reaping the advantages of our victories while we were yet on the summit of our glory, and before we had experienced any reverse of fortune. In grateful return for those many blessings which your Majesty's royal wisdom and fortitude have procured for us, your Majesty may depend on our warmest zeal, on our constant

constant endeavours to promote that unanimity your Majesty recommends in all our proceedings, and on our attention to those measures of œconomy which are the peculiar business of times of peace, and which alone can relieve your Majesty's faithful people from the oppressive burdens of so long and so expensive a war.

His Majesty's Answer, November 26, 1762.

My Lords,

THIS very affectionate and loyal address gives me the truest satisfaction. I thank you heartily for it, as well as for your congratulations on the birth of the prince, my son, and for the regard you express on this occasion for the Queen.

The cheerful and steady support of my Parliament throughout the war has been attended with uninterrupted success; and the ratification of the preliminary articles will, I trust, soon be followed by the completion of the peace on safe and honourable conditions.

My only wish is, and ever will be, to promote the lasting happiness, prosperity, and security of my faithful people.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 26, 1762.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the most humble and hearty thanks of this House for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us, at the same time, to congratulate your Majesty on the auspicious birth of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the recovery of your royal consort, endeared to this country not only by this important event but by her own personal virtues.

We acknowledge with the utmost gratitude your Majesty's great attention to the welfare of your people in the vigorous prosecution of the war, and congratulate your Majesty on that happy effect of it, the prospect of such a peace as may give stability and permanency to the blessings we promise ourselves under your Majesty's most auspicious reign.

We assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons are truly sensible of the wisdom with which your plans have been

concerted, as well as of the fuccefsful zeal with which they have been carried into execution by your fleets and armies.

The refolution and intrepidity of your Majefty's army in Germany, and the military fkill and diftinguifhed activity of your general, Prince Ferdinand of Brunfwick, which have obtained fo many fignal advantages over an enemy fo fuperior in numbers, are objects of our higheft admiration: the ftopping the progrefs of the French and Spanifh arms in Portugal, and the prefervation of that kingdom, by the firmnefs and refolution of its fovereign, and by the fuperior talents and able conduct of the reigning Count La Lippe, feconded by the valour of the troops under his command, are events of the higheft importance to this nation and its commerce: the reduction of Martinico, fo glorious to your Majefty's arms, and the ftill more glorious and important conqueft of the Havannah, by which great treafure and a very confiderable part of the navy of Spain are fallen into your Majefty's hands, fpeak the wifdom of your councils, and the valour of thofe employed in the execution of thefe great commands, and fill our hearts with gratitude and fatisfaction.

The public teftimony which your Majefty has, therefore, gracioufly given to the unwearied perfeverance and unparalleled bravery of your officers and private men, by fea and land, to which, under God, thefe glorious achievements are to be attributed, is a no lefs honourable than deferved reward of their fervices, and muft be an additional recommendation of them to the efteem and gratitude of their country.

Allow us, Sir, to thank your Majefty for having promifed to direct the preliminary articles of peace to be laid before us. And we receive, with the greateft fatisfaction, the information which your Majefty has condefcended, in the mean time, to afford us; from which we promife ourfelves, that, with your Majefty's dominions, our trade will be increafed; and that all occafions of future difputes being removed, the bleffings of peace will be thereby rendered permanent and fecure.

We return your Majefty our moft fincere and humble thanks for your great goodnefs and tender regard for the welfare of your fubjects, in proceeding without delay to the conclufion of the negotiation of peace, fo expedient for this country; and for your gracious intentions, as foon as it fhall be concluded, to reduce the public expenfes.

Your Majefty may be affured, that your faithful Commons will cheerfully affift in the fupport of fuch expenfes as may be ftill neceffary, with due regard to that œconomy which your Majefty

Majesty recommends to us, as far as may be consistent with wisdom and true policy.

We will not fail to consider of the most effectual methods of settling our new acquisitions, of securing those countries to us, and of improving our commerce and navigation. And, lamenting the loss of those many brave men who have fallen in this glorious war, we will pay all due attention to the services of those who yet remain, by whose valour those acquisitions have been made. And we will continue to cultivate that union to which we greatly owe the successes of the war, in order thereby to make the best advantages of peace, and lay the foundation of that œconomy which we owe to ourselves and to our posterity.

His Majesty's Answer, November 29, 1762.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address; and I receive your congratulations on the birth of the prince, my son, as a fresh proof of your attachment to my person, and of your regard to the Queen.

The assurances of your ready support in such expenses as may be still necessary afford me the highest satisfaction; and the ratification of the preliminary articles gives me the pleasing hope of soon easing my faithful subjects, by a safe, honourable, and permanent peace, of the heavy but unavoidable burdens they have so cheerfully borne during the war.

The humble Address of the Archbishops, Bishops, and Clergy, of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation assembled; presented to his Majesty on Friday the third Day of December, 1762.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Archbishops, Bishops, and Clergy of the province of Canterbury, in convocation assembled, beg leave to take the first occasion of jointly congratulating your Majesty on the blessing, for which we have separately offered up our fervent thanksgiving to God, of his vouchsafing, and that so early, to you and your excellent consort the Queen, a son to inherit the crown of these realms.

We feel a very sensible pleasure from the increase of your Majesty's domestic felicity, in the addition of paternal to con-

conjugal tenderneſs. But our views extend much further; and, as we owe to your auguſt houſe the preſervation of every thing dear to us as men or chriſtians, and have found each of your illuſtrious anceſtors faithful guardians of all thoſe diſtinguiſhed advantages, which we enjoy to the height under your Majeſty's gracious government, ſo we truſt that Providence hath deſigned us a pledge of the perpetuity of our happineſs, in giving us a prince deſcended from ſuch progenitors. For we know, that his hereditary good diſpoſitions will be ſolicitouſly ſtrengthened and improved by the daily inſtruction and example of his parents, who will complete their merits to theſe nations, by forming his youthful mind to the love of religion, of liberty, of our civil and eccleſiaſtical conſtitution; to a judicious zeal for the proſperity of Great Britain, and a ſincere benevolence to mankind in general.

May theſe pleaſing labours be ſucceſsful in the higheſt degree. May the royal infant grow up in health and ſtrength, become the joy and boaſt of the public by every valuable attainment, delight your Majeſties by the moſt affectionate duty and gratitude, through an uncommon length of days mercifully granted you; and, born at the dawning of peace, may he ſee, all his life, the people of this land reaping the beneficial fruits of it to the utmoſt.

It ſhall be our conſcientious care to remind our fellow ſubjects of the ineſtimable privileges which they poſſeſs, and the glorious expectations which they may juſtly entertain for themſelves and their poſterity from your Majeſty and your family, if they will ſecure the Divine protection by leading thankfully quiet and peaceable lives in godlineſs and honeſty, as their holy profeſſion requires. And we moſt dutifully entreat the continuance of your Majeſty's attention to the ſacred intereſts of chriſtian piety and moral virtue, which we are fully ſatisfied you have deeply at heart.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, December 3, 1762.

My Lords, and the reſt of the Clergy,

I ACCEPT with thanks theſe new aſſurances of your regard to the Queen; and ſee, with particular pleaſure, the expreſſions of your gratitude to Almighty God for the birth of the prince, my ſon.

Your opinion of my fixed intention to educate him in every principle of religious and civil liberty is truly acceptable to me.

Be

Be assured that no endeavour on my part shall be wanting to promote the sacred interests of christian piety and of moral virtue, and to transmit to posterity our present most happy constitution.

Address by the House of Lords, Dec. 10, 1762.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our sincerest acknowledgments for the important communication which your Majesty has been graciously pleased to make to us, of the preliminary articles of peace concluded the third day of last month at Fontainbleau with the crowns of France and Spain:

And to express, in the most dutiful manner, to your Majesty, the satisfaction which we have received at the foundation laid by these articles for a treaty of peace, which will greatly redound to your Majesty's honour and the real benefit of your kingdoms; and our entire reliance, that the same care and attention will be shewn for the perfecting of this great work by the definitive treaty.

We think it our indispensable duty to lay before your Majesty this early testimony of our warmest gratitude, seeing the great object of the war so fully answered, all proper attention shewn to your Majesty's allies, a vast extent of empire to the British crown, new sources opened for the trade and manufactures of this nation, and stability and duration insured, under the blessing of Providence, to these great and national advantages.

We are no less sensible of the prudence and wisdom which has guided your Majesty's conduct on this great occasion, than of the humane disposition and paternal affection to your subjects which your Majesty has shewn, in putting a safe and honourable end to a burdensome and expensive war.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we shall immediately apply ourselves to improve the blessings of peace, by promoting that œconomy which your Majesty has wisely recommended, and which is so necessary to the dignity of the crown and the prosperity of these your kingdoms.

His Majesty's Answer, Dec. 10, 1762.

My Lords,

I RETURN you thanks for this very dutiful address.

The satisfaction which you express in the points agreed by the preliminary articles towards a final pacification is very acceptable to me.

In what remains to be done, you may depend upon the utmost care and attention on my part to settle every thing which concerns the interests of my kingdoms upon a solid and durable foundation.

Address by the House of Commons, December 10, 1762.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our most humble and hearty thanks for your most gracious condescension, in ordering to be laid before us the preliminary articles of peace, concluded between your Majesty on the one part, and their Most Christian and Catholic Majesties on the other; and to assure your Majesty, that we have considered them with our best attention: and, although to make peace and war be your Majesty's just and undoubted prerogative, yet, knowing how agreeable it must be to your royal mind to be informed of the grateful sense your people entertain of the justice and wisdom of your measures, and of your unwearied attention to their welfare, your faithful Commons are impatient to express their approbation of the advantageous terms upon which your Majesty has concluded preliminary articles of peace, and to lay before your Majesty the hearty applause of a faithful, affectionate, and thankful people.

While we admire your Majesty's prudence in availing yourself of the successes with which Divine Providence hath blessed your arms, whereby your Majesty hath procured such solid, and, in all human probability, such permanent advantages for this nation, we are no less sensibly affected with that humane disposition which induced your Majesty to put an end to a long, bloody, and expensive, though glorious and successful war.

Your faithful Commons will take the earliest opportunity to examine into the state of the public revenues, in order to establish the best œconomy for the future, so wisely recommended by your Majesty, and so necessary to maintain the

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kingdom of Great Britain in that great and respectable situation in which your Majesty's fortitude and wisdom have now placed us.

We are convinced that posterity, from their own experience, will hereafter agree with us in esteeming that peace to be no less honourable than profitable, by which there will be ceded to Great Britain such an addition of territory, attended with so great an extension of our commerce.

We therefore beg leave humbly to lay before your Majesty the strongest sentiments of gratitude, and to assure your Majesty, that it shall be our study to improve that confidence of the people in you, which your Majesty hath already so very deservedly acquired from your conduct in the present important conjuncture.

His Majesty's Answer, December 14, 1762.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this most loyal and affectionate address: your approbation of the measures I have taken for restoring peace, and of the terms upon which it is to be concluded, gives me the highest satisfaction.

The affection and gratitude of my people are the most pleasing return I can receive for my endeavours to promote their happiness.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, March 14, 1763.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty, being sensible of the zeal and vigour with which his faithful subjects in North America have exerted themselves in defence of his Majesty's just rights and possessions, recommends it to this House to take the same into consideration, and to enable his Majesty to give them a proper compensation for the expenses incurred by the respective provinces, in the levying, cloathing, and pay of the troops, raised by the same, according as the active vigour and strenuous efforts of the respective provinces shall justly appear to merit.

G. R.

The humble Addrefs of the Archbifhop, the Bifhops, and the Clergy of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation affembled; prefented to his Majefty on Friday the fifteenth Day of April, 1763.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft loyal and dutiful fubjects, the Archbifhop, Bifhops, and Clergy of the province of Canterbury, in convocation affembled, humbly beg leave to congratulate you on the good fuccefs with which Providence hath gracioufly crowned your humane and chriftian labours, for putting an end to the late neceffary but expenfive and bloody war by the conclufion of a juft and honourable peace.

It adds greatly to our joy, your Majefty's influence and example have been happily inftrumental in reftoring tranquillity throughout the reft of Europe. And our fatisfaction is ftill further heightened by the profpect, that all our fellow fubjects in your wide-extended American dominions will, by means of the acquifitions which the Britifh arms have made, and your Majefty hath fo prudently retained, live hereafter fecure from favage incurfions and alarms.

We truft alfo, that a door will thus be opened to fpread the gofpel of Jefus Chrift in its native purity by the only allowable method, rational and benevolent perfuafion, amongft thofe who have hitherto either been ignorant of it, or mixed it with dangerous errors.

We earneftly pray God to direct and blefs your Majefty's counfels to the complete attainment of thefe falutary ends; and grant you long to fee every part of the feveral nations under your government flourifhing in the full enjoyment of all their religious and civil rights, and fhewing their thankfulnefs for fuch ineftimable bleffings by a cheerful and uniform obedience to God and your Majefty.

Whatever we can do for the promotion of the public felicity we fhall always diligently endeavour, animated to it in the ftrongeft manner both by confcience and inclination.

His Majefty's Anfwer, April 15, 1763.

My Lords, and the reft of the Clergy,

THIS frefh teftimony of your duty and affection to my perfon and government is very highly agreeable to me. It will ever be my fincere endeavour to extend our moft holy religion throughout the vaft dominions added to my crown by the late

late honourable and advantageous peace: in this pious work; I am persuaded, I shall have the hearty and zealous assistance of my faithful clergy; and they may be assured of my constant protection and support.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, April 19, 1763.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT put an end to this session of Parliament without expressing my thanks for the signal zeal and dispatch which you have manifested in your proceedings, and which make it unnecessary for me to continue it any longer.

I informed you at your first meeting, that preliminary articles were signed by my minister and those of France and Spain. I ordered them to be laid before you, and the satisfaction which I felt at the approaching re-establishment of peace, upon conditions so honourable to my crown, and so beneficial to my people, was highly increased by my receiving, from both Houses of Parliament, the strongest and most grateful expressions of their entire approbation. These articles have been established, and even rendered still more advantageous to my subjects, by the definitive treaty; and my expectations have been fully answered by the happy effects which the several allies of my crown have derived from this salutary measure. The powers at war with my good brother, the King of Prussia, have been induced to agree to such terms of accommodation as that great prince has approved; and the success which has attended my negotiation has necessarily and immediately diffused the blessings of peace through every part of Europe.

I acquainted you with my firm resolution to form my government on a plan of strict œconomy. The reductions necessary for this purpose shall be completed with all possible expedition; and although the army maintained in those kingdoms will be inferior in number to that usually kept up in former times of peace, yet I trust that the force proposed, with the establishment of the national militia, (whose services I have experienced, and cannot too much commend) will prove a sufficient security for the future.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have seen, with the highest concern, the great anticipations of the revenue, and the heavy debts unprovided for during the late war, which have reduced you to the unhappy necessity of imposing further burdens upon my people. Under these circumstances, it is my earnest wish to contribute, by every means,

means, to their relief. The utmoſt frugality ſhall be obſerved in the diſpoſition of the ſupplies which you have granted; and when the accounts of the money ariſing from the ſale of ſuch prizes as are veſted in the crown ſhall be cloſed, it is my intention to direct that the produce ſhall be applied to the public ſervice.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The extenſion of the commerce of my ſubjects, the improvement of the advantages we have obtained, and the increaſe of the public revenue, are the proper works of peace. To theſe important and neceſſary objects my attention ſhall be directed. I depend upon your conſtant care to promote, in your ſeveral counties, that ſpirit of concord, and that obedience to law, which is eſſential to good order, and to the happineſs of my faithful ſubjects. It is your part to diſcourage every attempt of a contrary tendency; it ſhall be mine firmly to maintain the honour of my crown, and to protect the rights of my people.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurſday, the twenty-third day of June next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the twenty-third day of June next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, November 15, 1763.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE re-eſtabliſhment of the public tranquillity, upon terms of honour and advantage to my kingdoms, was the firſt great object of my reign. That ſalutary meaſure has received the approbation of my Parliament, and has ſince been happily completed and carried into execution by the definitive treaty. It has been, and ſhall be, my endeavour to inſure the continuance of the peace, by a faithful and ſteady adherence to the conditions upon which it was concluded, and I have the ſatisfaction to acquaint you, that the ſeveral powers of Europe who were engaged againſt us in the late war, have given me the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of the ſame good diſpoſition. Our principal care ought now to be employed to improve the valuable

luable acquisitions which we have made, and to cultivate the arts of peace in such a manner, as may most effectually contribute to extend the commerce, and to augment the happiness of my kingdoms.

For these great purposes I have called you together. It will ever be my earnest wish and endeavour to demonstrate to my people, by my actions, the love which I bear them; and I doubt not of receiving from them the grateful and just returns of duty and affection.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I will order the proper estimates for the service of the year to be laid before you. The heavy debts contracted in the course of the late war, for many of which no provision is yet made, call for your utmost attention and the strictest frugality. I must, however, earnestly recommend to you the support of my fleet, to which our past successes have been so much owing, and upon which the future welfare and importance of Great Britain do most essentially depend. To ease my people of some part of these burdens, I have directed, as I promised at the end of the last session of Parliament, that the money arising from the sale of the prizes vested in the crown should be applied to the public service. It is my intention to reserve, for the same use, whatever sums shall be produced by the sale of any of the lands belonging to me in the islands of the West Indies which were ceded to us by the late treaty.

The improvement of the public revenue, by such regulations as shall be judged most expedient for that purpose, deserves your serious consideration. This will be the surest means of reducing the national debt, and of relieving my subjects from those burdens which the expenses of the late war have brought upon them, and will, at the same time, establish the public credit upon the most solid foundation.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

As the interests and prosperity of my people are the sole objects of my care, I have only to desire, that you will pursue such measures as are conducive to those ends with dispatch and unanimity. Domestic union will be essentially necessary to remedy those evils which are the consequences of war, to enable us to reap the most permanent advantages from the conclusion of the peace, and to discourage that licentious spirit which is repugnant to the true principles of liberty and of this happy constitution. In this opinion I trust that my subjects will be confirmed by your example, and that they will be taught by your proceedings to unite their utmost endeavours

to ſupport ſuch meaſures as may equally tend to the honour and dignity of my crown, and to their own ſecurity and happineſs.

Addreſs to his Majeſty by the Houſe of Lords, Nov. 16, 1763.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Permit us, Sir, to take the earlieſt opportunity of congratulating your Majeſty on the happy addition to your royal family by the auſpicious birth of a ſecond prince, and of expreſſing our moſt ſincere wiſhes, that the ſame Divine bleſſing may be continued to your Majeſty's illuſtrious houſe; on which the preſervation of our holy religion, and our rights and liberties, do, under God, ſo eſſentially depend.

We beg leave alſo to declare our utmoſt gratitude to your Majeſty, for the re-eſtabliſhment of the public tranquillity upon terms of honour to your crown and advantage to your people. We have the firmeſt reliance on your Majeſty's moſt gracious aſſurances of your endeavours to ſecure the continuance of a peace, ſo neceſſary to the relief of your ſubjects, who have long laboured under the burden of a moſt expenſive, though ſucceſsful war, in every part of the globe; and we receive with great ſatiſfaction the communication which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to make to us of the good diſpoſition of the ſeveral powers engaged in the late war, whoſe concurrence in your Majeſty's ſalutary intentions will, we truſt, long inſure the tranquillity of Europe.

We are deeply ſenſible of your Majeſty's paternal care and attention for the improvement of your conqueſts, and the extenſion of the commerce of your ſubjects, in which the public welfare is ſo materially concerned, and we will not fail, on our part, to exert our warmeſt endeavours in forwarding your Majeſty's great and gracious purpoſes. For we have nothing more ſincerely at heart, than that your Majeſty having by your conduct impreſſed on the minds of your faithful ſubjects a full conviction of your true affection, may receive from them the moſt ample returns of duty and attachment which a loyal and grateful people can make.

Convinced as we are that domeſtic union is eſſentially neceſſary for ſecuring the advantages derived to us from the late happy and honourable peace, we cannot ſufficiently expreſs

our abhorrence of that seditious spirit which has of late manifested itself in defiance of the laws, to the subversion of good order, and to the disgrace of liberty, whose sacred name it has so insolently assumed. And we beg leave to assure your Majesty that by our zeal and application in bringing all offenders of that sort to justice, as well as by our proceedings in general, we will endeavour to give such an example as may induce your Majesty's subjects to unite in discouraging a licentiousness which is so repugnant to the true principles of this happy constitution, and in promoting such measures as may equally conduce to the honour and dignity of your Majesty's crown, and to their own happiness and security.

His Majesty's Answer, November 16, 1763.

My Lords,

THESE hearty assurances of your loyalty and affection are truly acceptable to me; and I receive, with particular satisfaction, your congratulations upon the birth of my second son.

Your concurrence with me in pursuing the essential objects of our national attention, under the present happy pacification, will be of great importance towards the success of my endeavours for securing the prosperity of my people.

I do both highly approve the zeal which you profess, and firmly rely upon the exertion of it, against that licentious and factious spirit which is the most dangerous enemy to our excellent and invaluable constitution.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 17, 1763.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us at the same time to offer our warmest congratulations to your Majesty on the auspicious birth of another prince, and on the happy recovery of your royal consort, now further endeared to this country by the increase of those pledges of our liberty and future happiness.

We beg leave to congratulate your Majesty on the completion of that great and salutary measure, the re-establishment

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of the public tranquillity upon terms ſo honourable to your crown, and ſo advantageous to your people.

Allow us, Sir, to aſſure your Majeſty, that we feel the higheſt ſatisfaction in the declaration which you are ſo graciouſly pleaſed to make of your reſolution faithfully and ſteadily to adhere to the condition of the peace which your Majeſty has concluded; and that we cannot but conſider the ſtrong aſſurances of the ſame good diſpoſition, given by the ſeveral powers of Europe who were lately engaged againſt us, as the natural conſequence of your Majeſty's wiſdom and firmneſs, and as a farther preſage that the bleſſings of peace will be uninterrupted and permanent.

We are truly ſenſible of that paternal love to your people, of which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to aſſure us in ſo affecting a manner; and we will aſſiduouſly apply ourſelves to the accompliſhment of thoſe great purpoſes for which your Majeſty has called us together, the improvement of our valuable acquiſitions, the extenſion of our commerce, and the cultivating of every art of peace which may either tend to alleviate the heavy burdens occaſioned by the war, or may otherwiſe contribute to the general welfare of theſe kingdoms.

We beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that your faithful Commons will cheerfully grant to your Majeſty ſuch ſupplies as ſhall be found neceſſary for the ſervice of the year; that they will be careful to maintain the navy of Great Britain upon the moſt reſpectable footing; and that they look upon your Majeſty's earneſt recommendation of this important object as a teſtimony of your royal attention to the true and eſſential intereſt of this country.

We acknowledge, with the deepeſt ſenſe of gratitude, your Majeſty's gracious and tender concern for the relief of your people, by directing that the money ariſing from the ſale of prizes veſted in the crown ſhould be applied to the public ſervice; and for that additional mark of your royal beneficence, in ſignifying your intention to reſerve, for the ſame uſe, whatever ſums ſhall be produced by the ſale of any of the lands belonging to the crown, in the iſlands of the Weſt Indies, ceded by the late treaty.

Your Majeſty may be aſſured that we will beſtow the ſtricteſt attention upon that intereſting ſubject which your Majeſty has pointed out to our ſerious conſideration; and will diligently weigh every regulation which may be propoſed for the improvement of the public revenue, as the moſt effectual method to reduce the national debt, to relieve your Majeſty's ſubjects from the burdens of the late war, and to confirm and ſtrengthen the public credit.

We are thoroughly convinced, by the whole tenor of your Majesty's most auspicious reign, that the common good and prosperity of your people are the sole objects of your care; and that we should therefore be wanting to ourselves, and neglectful of our own happiness, if we did not pursue, with unanimity and dispatch, such measures as may best contribute to these great ends, and may most effectually discourage that spirit of disorder and licentiousness which is no less dangerous to liberty than destructive of government.

Animated with these sentiments, we will endeavour, by our own conduct, to set an example to others, of duty to our sovereign, and of love to our country; being firmly persuaded that, under a prince adorned with those virtues which distinguish your Majesty, your real interests and those of your people are inseparable.

His Majesty's Answer, Nov. 28, 1763.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address, and for your congratulations on the happy event of the birth of my second son.

The satisfaction which you express at the re-establishment of the public tranquillity is highly acceptable to me; and your resolution to pursue such measures as are most conducive to the honour and happiness of my kingdoms, will always meet with my warmest approbation and concurrence.

Joint Address to his Majesty by both Houses of Parliament, December 5, 1763.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and faithful subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament assembled, having taken into our consideration a late false, scandalous, and seditious libel, intituled, "The North Briton, No. 45," think it our indispensable duty to express our surprize and indignation at finding, that neither the public nor private virtues which so eminently intitle your Majesty to the highest veneration, as well as to the most grateful and loyal attachment of all your subjects, nor the gracious expressions of your tender care and affection for your people in your Majesty's speech from the throne at the end of the last session of Parliament, which has been thus infamously traduced, should

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have been sufficient to secure your Majesty from so insolent and unexampled an indignity.

Such, indeed, has been your Majesty's uniform adherence to the principles of our happy constitution, and such the uninterrupted harmony and good correspondence between your Majesty and your Parliament, that it is no wonder to see that the same audacious hand which hath dared thus grossly to affront your Majesty, should, at the same time, violate the other sacred regards prescribed by the laws and constitution of this country; aspersing and calumniating every branch of the legislature, and endeavouring to excite amongst all ranks of your Majesty's subjects, such a spirit of discord and disobedience as could end in nothing but the total subversion of all lawful government.

Permit us also to express to your Majesty our firm persuasion and just confidence, that this most extravagant and outrageous attempt will prove as impotent as it is wicked; that instead of answering those purposes for which it appears to have been calculated, it will, on the contrary, serve to excite in your faithful subjects the abhorrence of such dangerous practices, to unite them more firmly in their zealous attachment to your Majesty's person and government, and in a due reverence for the authority of the legislature; and lastly, that in consequence of your Majesty's directions to prosecute the authors of this infamous libel, it will bring such punishment upon those who shall be found guilty of so atrocious a crime, as the laws of their country have prescribed, and as the public justice and safety shall demand.

His Majesty's Answer, December 5, 1763.

Lords and Gentlemen,

THE very affectionate zeal which you express for the vindication of my honour, and your declared resolution to support the authority of Parliament, cannot fail of being extremely grateful to me. It has been hitherto, and it always shall be, my care to regulate my conduct according to the principles of the constitution. I will not therefore be wanting in carrying the laws into execution against all who shall presume to violate any of those principles: and in this resolution, I doubt not of receiving the hearty concurrence and support both of my Parliament and my people.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, April 19, 1764.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT put an end to this session of Parliament without returning you my thanks for the prudent and salutary measures which you have taken to extend the commerce, and to secure the happiness of my kingdoms.

The assurances which I have received of the pacific disposition of the several powers with whom we were lately at war, and of their resolution to adhere inviolably to the terms of the late treaty, promise the continuance of peace abroad; and the firm and temperate exertion of your authority, joined to the constitutional and public-spirited conduct which you have manifested on every occasion during the present session, will, I trust, establish at home due obedience to the laws, reverence to the legislature, and domestic union.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the supplies which you have so cheerfully and unanimously granted. The ample provision you have made for the several services recommended to you, and especially for maintaining my fleet in a respectable state, will, I am confident, preserve to this nation its proper weight and influence, and give strength and security to all my dominions.

The wise regulations which have been established to augment the public revenues, to unite the interests of the most distant possessions of my crown, and to encourage and secure the commerce with Great Britain, call for my hearty approbation.

Your regard to public credit, in discharging part of the heavy debt contracted and unprovided for during the late war, without imposing on this kingdom the burden of any new taxes, is particularly pleasing to me, from the tender concern which I feel for my people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is the proper employment of this season of tranquillity, to consider of the most effectual means for perfecting those works of peace, and plans of public utility, which have been so wisely and happily begun.

I recommend these important objects to your consideration during the recess: you may depend upon my constant endeavours for the success of these good purposes; as I shall ever esteem it my truest glory to employ that power with which the constitution hath intrusted me in promoting your real interests and lasting happiness.

 Then

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-first day of June next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-first day of June next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Jan. 10, 1765.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE situation of affairs, both at home and abroad, has enabled me to allow you that recess which has been usual in times of public tranquillity.

I have now the satisfaction to inform you, that I have agreed with my good brother, the King of Denmark, to cement the union which has long subsisted between the two crowns, by the marriage of the Prince Royal of Denmark with my sister, the Princess Caroline Matilda, which is to be solemnized as soon as their respective ages will permit.

I observe with pleasure, that the events which have happened in the course of the last year give us reason to hope for duration of that peace which has been so happily established, and which it is my resolution strictly to maintain. The courts of France and Spain have given me fresh assurances of their good dispositions. The future quiet of the empire has been confirmed by the unanimous choice of a successor to the Imperial dignity; and the peaceable election of the King of Poland has prevented those fatal consequences, which, upon similar occasions, have so frequently been destructive to the repose of Europe. I am happy, therefore, to meet my Parliament at a time when no foreign disturbances interrupt their consultations for the internal good order and prosperity of my kingdoms.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I shall ask of you, for the current service of the year, no other supplies than such as are necessary for those establishments which have already met with your approbation; and I will order the proper estimates for this purpose to be laid before you.

I must, however, earnestly recommend to you the continuance of that attention which you have hitherto shewn, for the improvement of the public revenue, and the diminution of the national debt. For these desirable and necessary ends, I am

 persuaded

persuaded that you will pursue every proper measure, which the state of my dominions, and the circumstances of the times, may require.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The experience which I have had of your former conduct makes me rely on your wisdom and firmness, in promoting that obedience to the laws, and respect to the legislative authority of this kingdom, which is essentially necessary for the safety of the whole, and in establishing such regulations as may best connect and strengthen every part of my dominions, for their mutual benefit and support.

The affection which I bear to my people excites my earnest wish, that every session of Parliament may be distinguished by some plans for the public advantage, and for their relief from those difficulties which an expensive war has brought upon them. My concurrence and encouragement shall never be wanting where their welfare is concerned; and I trust, that, for the attainment of that great object, you will proceed with temper, unanimity, and dispatch.

Address by the House of Lords, Jan. 11, 1765.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We acknowledge, with gratitude, your Majesty's goodness, in acquainting us with your having agreed to a marriage between the Prince Royal of Denmark and your Majesty's sister, the Princess Caroline Matilda, to be solemnized as soon as their respective ages will permit. And we beg leave to assure your Majesty of our entire satisfaction in the choice of this alliance; which, under the blessing of Providence, cannot fail of cementing and strengthening the union which has so long subsisted between the crown of Great Britain and Denmark, and thereby conducing to the support of the protestant cause.

We sincerely rejoice in those events of the last year, which seem to promise a continuance of the peace so happily established; and we receive, with gratitude, the declaration which your Majesty is graciously pleased to make, of your resolution strictly to maintain it. We hope that the fresh assurances which the courts of France and Spain have given of their good dispositions; the quiet of the empire, confirmed by the unanimous

choice of a succeffor to the Imperial dignity; and the peaceable election of the King of Poland; will contribute to the fecurity of the general tranquillity of Europe, and that it will long remain fixed on a firm and lafting bafis. And we beg leave to affure your Majefty, that, as the prefent undifturbed ftate of affairs abroad affords fo favorable an opportunity for the deliberations of your Parliament on fuch objects as may be moft conducive to the internal good order and profperity of thefe kingdoms, nothing fhall be wanting in care and attention on our part which may promote the welfare and the honor of our country.

Permit us, Sir, to offer your Majefty our humble acknowledgments, for the gracious approbation which your Majefty is pleafed to declare of our former conduct; and to give your Majefty the ftrongeft affurances, that we will firmly perfift in exerting our zealous endeavours to promote due obedience to the laws, and reverence to the legiflative authority of this kingdom; and to eftablifh fuch regulations as fhall appear to be moft conducive to the mutual benefit and fupport of all your Majefty's dominions.

With hearts full of duty and affection, we offer our unfeigned thanks to your Majefty for your paternal care and tender concern for the difficulties which have been brought on your fubjects by a long and burdenfome war; and for your royal wifhes that your Parliament may take every occafion for their relief. Animated with thefe fentiments, we affure your Majefty that we will proceed with that temper, unanimity, and difpatch, which your Majefty is pleafed to recommend to us in the purfuit of thofe great and important objects, to which your Majefty has directed our attention.

His Majefty's Anfwer, Jan. 11, 1765.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this dutiful and affectionate addrefs. The fatisfaction which you exprefs on the intended marriage of my fifter, the Princefs Caroline Matilda, is particularly agreeable to me. And I accept, with pleafure, the affurances you give me of your zealous endeavours for the advancement of the profperity of my kingdoms, and the happinefs of my people, which I fhall ever have moft fincerely at heart.

Addrefs

Address to his Majesty by the House of Commons, Jan. 11, 1765.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the most humble thanks of this House for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us, at the same time, to offer to your Majesty our dutiful congratulations upon the marriage agreed to be solemnized between the Prince Royal of Denmark and her Royal Highness the Princess Caroline Matilda, as soon as their respective ages will permit, which happy union cannot but be most pleasing to your faithful Commons, as it must tend to cement and strengthen the ancient alliance between the crowns of Great Britain and Denmark, and thereby add security to the protestant religion.

We beg leave also to declare our satisfaction at those events of the last year, which promise the continuance of the peace so happily established and maintained by your Majesty's wise and steady conduct, and to express our hopes, that the fresh assurances which have been given by the courts of France and Spain, of their good dispositions, the unanimous choice of a successor to the Imperial throne, and the undisturbed election of the King of Poland, will secure and confirm the general tranquillity of Europe. In this situation, we think it our duty to give our particular attention to such regulations, as will most effectually promote the internal good order and prosperity of these kingdoms.

Your Majesty may be assured, that we will, with cheerfulness and dispatch, raise such supplies as shall be found necessary for the current service of the year. And being thoroughly sensible of your Majesty's paternal concern for the relief and welfare of your people, in recommending to us the improvement of the public revenue, and the diminution of the national debt, on which the future safety of Great Britain must depend, we will apply ourselves, with the utmost zeal and assiduity, to carry into execution every proper measure which may contribute to these great and salutary purposes, and which the state of your Majesty's dominions and the circumstances of the times shall require.

We acknowledge with the liveliest gratitude the gracious expressions of your Majesty's tender affection, and of your constant care for the mutual benefit and support of all your subjects. And we assure your Majesty, that, animated with these sentiments, we will endeavour to deserve the confidence which

your Majesty is pleased to repose in us, by pursuing every plan which shall appear to us to be calculated for the public advantage; and will proceed therein with that temper and firmness which will best conciliate and insure due submission to the laws, and reverence to the legislative authority of Great Britain.

His Majesty's Answer, Jan. 14, 1765.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address: and I receive, with the greatest pleasure, your congratulations on the marriage agreed to be solemnized between the Prince Royal of Denmark, and my sister, the Princess Caroline Matilda. My constant endeavour shall be employed to preserve the public tranquillity, to secure the rights, and promote the happiness of my people.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, April 24, 1765.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE tender concern which I feel for my faithful subjects, makes me anxious to provide for every possible event which may effect their future happiness or security.

My late indisposition, though not attended with danger, has led me to consider the situation in which my kingdom and my family might be left, if it should please God to put a period to my life, whilst my successor is of tender years.

The high importance of this subject to the public safety, good order, and tranquillity, the paternal affection which I bear to my children, and to all my people, and my earnest desire that every precaution should be taken, which may tend to preserve the constitution of Great Britain undisturbed, and the dignity and lustre of its crown unimpaired, have determined me to lay this weighty business before my Parliament: and as my health, by the blessing of God, is now restored, I take the earliest opportunity of meeting you here, and of recommending to your most serious deliberation the making such provision as would be necessary, in case any of my children should succeed to the throne before they shall respectively attain the age of eighteen years.

To this end, I propose to your consideration, whether under the present circumstances it will not be expedient to vest in me the power of appointing from time to time, by instruments

in

in writing under my sign manual, either the Queen, or any other person of my royal family, usually residing in Great Britain, to be the guardian of the person of such successor, and the regent of these kingdoms, until such successor shall attain the age of eighteen years, subject to the like restrictions and regulations, as are specified and contained in an act passed upon a similar occasion, in the twenty-fourth year of the reign of the late King, my royal grandfather: the regent so appointed to be assisted by a council, composed of the several persons, who, by reason of their dignities and offices, are constituted members of the council established by that act, together with those whom you may think proper to leave to my nomination.

Joint Address by both Houses of Parliament, April 25, 1765.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament assembled, presume to approach your sacred person with our warmest acknowledgments of the peculiar goodness expressed in your most gracious speech from the throne.

We humbly entreat your Majesty's acceptance of our heartiest congratulations upon your recovery from your late indisposition.

Your Majesty's return to your Parliament has dissipated all those anxious sensations which the occasion of your absence had excited: and as the re-establishment of your invaluable health is an object to your faithful people of the sincerest joy and exultation, your Majesty has shewn a most affectionate regard to their satisfaction, in condescending to take the earliest opportunity of giving them so pleasing a proof of it.

This great mark of your Majesty's attention demands our most sincere and dutiful thanks: but we have before us a still more engaging instance of your watchful solicitude for our future security and happiness.

The constant tenor of your just and constitutional government, distinguished and endeared to your kingdoms by an unwearied application to the advancement of their interests and prosperity, had already filled our minds with a most cordial sense of gratitude. The new proof which your Majesty is now pleased to give us, of your truly paternal tenderness, by extending your concern for the stability, dignity, and lustre of your crown, with all the happy effects of your love to your royal children, and to your faithful subjects, beyond the period of your own continuance among them, must inspire us with still higher degrees, if possible, of reverence and affection.

Whilſt we contemplate with admiration that magnanimity which enables your Majeſty to look forward, with a cool compoſure of thought, to an event, which, whenever it ſhould pleaſe God to permit it, muſt overwhelm your loyal ſubjects with the bittereſt diſtraction of grief, we cannot but be deeply affected with that compaſſionate ſentiment of your royal heart, which ſuggeſts a proviſion for their comfort under ſo ſevere an affliction.

May it pleaſe the Divine Providence to exempt us from the fatal neceſſity of ſuch a conſolation! Your Majeſty has ſhewn, from the firſt day of your auſpicious reign, ſo conſcientious a regard to the laws and liberties, the religious and civil rights of your kingdoms, that we ſhould be inſenſible and unworthy of the happineſs we ourſelves enjoy, if we did not ardently wiſh to tranſmit it under the ſame gracious care and protection to our children.

Yet, feeling, as we do, the infinite importance of every meaſure that may tend to the perpetuating, in all events, our happy conſtitution; in deference to your Majeſty's recommendation, and under a full conviction of that conſummate prudence and beneficent intention which were the motives of it, we will not fail to apply ourſelves to the immediate diſcuſſion of the high and momentous object which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to propoſe to our conſideration.

Our deliberations concerning it will be animated by the hopes of ſecuring to our poſterity, under the bleſſing of Almighty God, and in concurrence with your Majeſty's ſalutary deſigns, the ineſtimable bleſſing of a legal proteſtant ſucceſſion to the crown of theſe realms in your royal family; and will be influenced by a juſt confidence in your princely wiſdom and paternal concern for your people.

We ſhall go into this conſultation with a ſenſible anxiety ariſing from the ſubject of it; but we humbly aſſure your Majeſty, that we will conclude it with all the diſpatch compatible with its ſingular importance; repeating, at the ſame time, our earneſt ſupplications, that, through the mercy of God upon this proteſtant church and nation, a precaution ſo expedient in proſpect may become uſeleſs in the event, by your Majeſty's living to form, under your own inſtruction, a ſucceſſor worthy to inherit the allegiance and affections of a free people, by a long and mature attention to the example of your royal virtues.

His

His Majeſty's Anſwer, April 25, 1765.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

YOUR affectionate congratulations upon my recovery, and the ſenſe which you expreſs of your happineſs under my government, give me the greateſt ſatiſfaction.

Be aſſured, I have not a more ſincere concern, or a more earneſt deſire, than to ſecure to my faithful people, both now and hereafter, the religious and civil bleſſings of our invaluable conſtitution.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, May 25, 1765.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE diſpatch which you have given, with ſo much zeal and wiſdom to the public buſineſs, enables me now to put a period to this ſeſſion of Parliament.

No alteration in the ſtate of foreign affairs has happened ſince your meeting to diſturb the general peace; and it is with pleaſure that I inform you, that the preſent diſpoſitions of the ſeveral powers of Europe promiſe the continuance of this bleſſing.

I have ſeen, with the moſt perfect approbation, that you have employed this ſeaſon of tranquillity in promoting thoſe objects which I had recommended to your attention, and in framing ſuch regulations as may beſt enforce the juſt authority of the legiſlature, and, at the ſame time, ſecure and extend the commerce, and unite the intereſts, of every part of my dominions.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

The cheerfulneſs and prudence which you have ſhewn, in providing for the neceſſary expenſes of the preſent year, deſerve my particular acknowledgments. The many bills which you have formed for the improvement and augmentation of the revenue in its ſeveral branches, and the early care which you have taken to diſcharge a part of the national debt, are the moſt effectual methods to eſtabliſh the public credit upon the ſureſt foundation, and to alleviate by degrees the burdens of my people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The proviſions which have been made for the adminiſtration of the government, in caſe the crown ſhould deſcend to any of my children under the age of eighteen years, whilſt they add ſtrength and ſecurity to our preſent eſtabliſhment, give me the kindeſt and moſt convincing proof of your confidence. The ſenſe which I have of the important truſt repoſed in me, and my deſire

desire to repay this mark of your affection, by discharging my part agreeably to your intentions, in the manner most beneficial to my people, have concurred to make me execute, without delay, the powers with which you have intrusted me. This is already done; and you may be assured, that, as far as it depends upon me, those salutary provisions shall never be ineffectual. It is my ardent wish, and shall be my constant endeavour, on this and every other occasion, to perpetuate the happiness of my subjects, and to transmit to posterity the blessings of our invaluable constitution.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the eleventh day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the eleventh day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Dec. 17, 1765.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE present general state of tranquillity in Europe gave me hopes that it would not have been necessary to assemble my Parliament sooner than is usual in times of peace.

But as matters of importance have lately occurred in some of my colonies in America, which will demand the most serious attention of Parliament; and as further informations are daily expected from different parts of that country, of which I shall order the fullest accounts to be prepared for your consideration, I have thought fit to call you now together, in order that opportunity may thereby be given to issue the necessary writs on the many vacancies that have happened in the House of Commons since the last session, so that the Parliament may be full to proceed immediately after the usual recess on the consideration of such weighty matters as will then come before you.

Address

Address by the House of Lords, Dec. 18, 1765.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne

We should be wanting in our duty not to assure your Majesty, that when your Majesty shall have been pleased to communicate to your Parliament those informations and advices which have been or shall be received from America, we will proceed to the consideration of those weighty matters with an attention equal to the importance of the subject, and with a resolution to do every thing which the exigency of the case may require

Attentive to every event which affects your Majesty, permit us to congratulate your Majesty on the birth of a prince. Whatever adds to your domestic happiness, and the stability and increase of that illustrious house from which these kingdoms have received the most important benefits, must always afford the highest satisfaction to your faithful subjects.

Animated by the same sentiments of zeal and duty to your Majesty and your royal family, and under the deepest impressions of concern, we beg leave to approach your throne with our sincere condolence on the loss of his late royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland.

The many eminent public and private virtues, the extent of capacity, and the magnanimity of mind, the affection for your Majesty's person, and the eminent services performed for this country, which distinguished that great and excellent prince, as they have left a lasting memorial in your royal breast, so have they made an impression never to be erased from the minds of your grateful people.

His Majesty's Answer, December 18, 1765.

My Lords,

THE assurances you give me of your loyalty and affection are truly pleasing to me.

I have the strongest reliance on your resolution to do every thing that may be most expedient in the present state of my colonies in America.

I see with particular pleasure those sentiments of zeal and duty to me and my family, with which you express your satisfaction

faction on the birth of my third son, and your concern for the loss I have sustained by the death of the Duke of Cumberland.

Address by the House of Commons, Dec. 18, 1765.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the thanks of this House for your most gracious speech from the throne; and to assure your Majesty that we will not fail, when this House shall be supplied with its members, to apply ourselves with the utmost diligence and attention to those important occurrences in America which your Majesty recommends to our consideration, and to exert our most zealous endeavours for the honour of your Majesty's government and the true interest of your people in all parts of your extended empire.

Permit us, at the same time, to congratulate your Majesty on the late increase of your royal family by the birth of a prince. Your Majesty's happiness and that of your people are one, and every increase of your Majesty's illustrious family is considered by your faithful Commons as a further security to that religion and those liberties we enjoy under your Majesty's most auspicious government.

We also beg leave to offer to your Majesty our sincere condolence on the great loss which your Majesty and this kingdom have sustained by the death of his late royal highness the Duke of Cumberland, whose private and public virtues, whose duty and affection to your Majesty, and whose distinguished merits and services to this country, as they made his person dear to this nation while he lived, so they cannot fail to render his memory sacred to the latest posterity.

His Majesty's Answer, December 20, 1765.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you thanks for this loyal and dutiful address.

The satisfaction you express in the increase of my family, and the affectionate share you take in the great loss I have sustained by the death of the Duke of Cumberland, are fresh proofs of your zeal and loyalty.

Your resolution, at the same time, to support the honour of my government, and to provide for the true interest of all my people,

people, cannot but be most acceptable to me. My conduct shall always shew that I consider their interest as inseparable from my own.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, January 14, 1766.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WHEN I met you last, I acquainted you that matters of importance had happened in America, which would demand the most serious attention of Parliament.

That no information which could serve to direct your deliberations in so interesting a concern might be wanting, I have ordered all the papers that give any light into the origin, the progress, or the tendency of the disturbances which have of late prevailed in some of the northern colonies, to be immediately laid before you.

No time has been lost on the first advice of these disturbances to issue orders to the governors of my provinces, and to the commanders of my forces in America, for the exertion of all the powers of government in the suppression of riots and tumults, and in the effectual support of lawful authority.

Whatever remains to be done on this occasion I commit to your wisdom, not doubting but your zeal for the honour of my crown, your attention to the just rights and authority of the British legislature, and your affection and concern for the welfare and prosperity of all my people, will guide you to such sound and prudent resolutions as may tend at once to preserve those constitutional rights over the colonies, and to restore to them that harmony and tranquillity which have lately been interrupted by riots and disorders of the most dangerous nature.

If any alterations should be wanting in the commercial œconomy of the plantations which may tend to enlarge and secure the mutual and beneficial intercourse of my kingdoms and colonies, they will deserve your most serious consideration. In effectuating purposes so worthy of your wisdom and public spirit, you may depend upon my most hearty concurrence and support. The present happy tranquillity now subsisting in Europe will enable you to pursue such objects of our interior policy with a more uninterrupted attention.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the proper estimates for the current service of the year to be laid before you. Such supplies as you may grant shall be duly applied with the utmost fidelity, and shall be dispensed with the strictest œconomy.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I earnestly recommend to you to proceed in your deliberations with temper and unanimity. The time requires, and I doubt not but your own inclination will lead you to those salutary dispositions. I have nothing at heart but the assertion of legal authority, the preservation of the liberties of all my subjects, the equity and good order of my government, and the concord and prosperity of all parts of my dominions.

Address to his Majesty by the House of Lords, Jan. 15, 1766.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return our hearty and most unfeigned thanks to your Majesty for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We gratefully acknowledge your Majesty's goodness and condescension, in ordering to be immediately laid before us all the materials of information which may serve to direct our proceedings upon the very important objects which your Majesty has proposed to our consideration.

We cannot avoid expressing our satisfaction in your Majesty's parental care and vigilance, in losing no time to issue the necessary orders for exerting the several powers of government in the suppression of riots and tumults, and the support of order and legal authority. Concurring heartily with your Majesty's salutary intentions, we will exert our utmost endeavours to assert and support your Majesty's dignity and honour, and the legislative authority of this kingdom over its colonies; and will take the most proper methods to provide the restoration of the tranquillity of those colonies which has been disturbed by such violent and dangerous commotions.

We congratulate your Majesty that the state of tranquillity so happily subsisting in Europe, leaves us at leisure to attend to the mutual commercial concerns of your kingdoms and colonies.'

Permit us, Sir, to condole with you on the loss your Majesty and your royal family has sustained by the premature death of his royal highness Prince Frederick William, whose amiable qualities and early attainments afforded so pleasing a prospect of happiness to your Majesty, and of advantage to your kingdoms.

Our deliberations will, we trust, be conducted with that prudence and temper which your Majesty so graciously recommends.

mends. You will find, Sir, that our ſentiments correſpond with your Majeſty's gracious intentions towards all your ſubjects; and that all things which may tend to re-eſtabliſh tranquillity and order, and to cement the ſeveral parts of the Britiſh dominions in a cloſe connection and conſtitutional dependence, ſhall be the firſt objects of our attention; that ſuch a firm authority may be eſtabliſhed, and ſuch a general ſatisfaction diffuſed over every part of your extenſive empire, as ought to diſtinguiſh the government of ſo wiſe, ſo juſt, and ſo beneficent a prince.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, Jan. 15, 1766.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this dutiful and loyal addreſs. Your firm and temperate reſolutions to ſupport the dignity of my crown, and the legiſlative authority of this kingdom over its colonies, your care at the ſame time to re-eſtabliſh order and tranquillity in thoſe colonies, and your regard to the proſperity and happineſs of all my people, ſhew diſpoſitions which are altogether worthy of your wiſdom, and which cannot fail of producing the moſt ſalutary effects both at home and abroad. You will find me unalterably fixed in the ſame intentions. Your affectionate condolence on the death of my brother affords me ſome conſolation on that melancholy occaſion.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Commons, January 15, 1766.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, return your Majeſty our moſt humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

It is with the higheſt ſenſe of your Majeſty's goodneſs we acknowledge that care for the welfare of your people, and that confidence in the loyalty and affection of your faithful Commons, which your Majeſty ſhews in the early communication your Majeſty has been pleaſed to order of the neceſſary informations relative to the diſturbances in America. Your reliance on the wiſdom and duty of your Parliament in a matter of ſo great importance, and the attention ſhewn by your Majeſty in referring to our deliberation and advice the joint concern of your Majeſty's royal authority, the rights of your Parliament, and

and the happineſs of your ſubjects, are at once objects of our higheſt admiration and gratitude.

It is our duty, as it ſhall be our care, to imitate that temper and equanimity which appear in your Majeſty's conduct, by mixing with our zeal for the honour of your Majeſty's government, and with our juſt regard for the dignity and authority of Parliament, the utmoſt attention to the important objects of the trade and navigation of theſe kingdoms, and the tendereſt concern for the united intereſts of all your Majeſty's people.

It is with inexpreſſible grief we are again called upon to condole with your Majeſty on the death of another prince of your royal family, whoſe amiable diſpoſition, and whoſe early virtues in the firſt dawn of life, while they ſhew him worthy of the illuſtrious race he ſprang from, muſt now double our regret at his untimely loſs.

The general ſtate of peace and tranquillity ſo happily reigning in all parts of Europe, muſt give the greateſt ſatisfaction to every one who has any concern for the true intereſt of this country, or who feels for the general happineſs of mankind.

Our aſſiſtance ſhall not be wanting to aid your Majeſty with our advice, and to ſtrengthen your authority for the continuation of that harmony ſo happily preſerved by the wiſdom of your Majeſty's councils, and the influence of your mild auſpicious government.

We aſſure your Majeſty that we ſhall with the greateſt cheerfulneſs grant your Majeſty the ſupplies neceſſary for the current ſervice of the year, having the firmeſt reliance on the promiſe your Majeſty is graciouſly pleaſed to make, of ſeeing them duly applied with that œconomy which your own wiſdom will direct, and which the circumſtances of this country ſo ſtrongly demand.

The unanimity and diſpatch which your Majeſty is pleaſed to recommend, we ſhall, from motives both of duty and inclination, endeavour to make the rule of our proceedings, being ſenſible that nothing can more immediately tend to add weight to the deliberations of Parliament, or efficacy to their reſolutions.

And as the conſtant tenor of your Majeſty's conduct ſhews that the happineſs and proſperity of your people are the ſole objects of your concern, we ſhould be equally wanting in duty to our Sovereign and care for our own honour, did we a moment neglect our part in promoting all ſuch wiſe and ſalutary meaſures as may tend to reflect dignity on your Majeſty's government, and fix the welfare of your people on the moſt ſolid foundations.

His

His Majesty's Answer, January 19, 1766.

Gentlemen,

THE moderation and temper with which you resolve to enter into the consideration of the important affairs I have recommended to you, cannot but give me the greatest satisfaction, as from those dispositions, I entertain the fullest confidence that your wisdom will direct you to such measures as will insure the common happiness and welfare of all my dominions, which will always be the invariable objects of my care and attention.

I receive your condolence on the melancholy event of my brother's death, as a mark of your affection and loyalty.

I shall be careful that my conduct shall justify the confidence you so affectionately express, in my properly applying such supplies as you may find necessary for the public service.

Message by his Majesty to the House of Commons, June 3, 1766.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty having, in consequence of the agreement mentioned in his speech at the opening of the last session of Parliament, received application from the present King of Denmark for the solemnization of his marriage with his Majesty's sister the Princess Caroline Matilda, has thought proper to inform this House that the marriage may probably be solemnized before the next session of Parliament; and as his Majesty can have no doubt that this alliance with so respectable a protestant prince will be to the satisfaction of all his good subjects, he promises himself the concurrence and assistance of this House in enabling him to give such a portion with his sister, as may be suitable to the honour and dignity of his crown.

His Majesty had intentions to have recommended at the same time to the consideration of the House, the making of some proper provision for the honourable support and maintenance of his dearly beloved brothers, the Dukes of York and Gloucester, and Prince Henry Frederick; but as the season of the year is greatly advanced, and it is necessary to grant a recess to his Parliament by a speedy conclusion of the session, his Majesty will defer the making of such recommendation until the next meeting for the dispatch of business; and is assured, from his experience of the affection of his faithful Commons to himself and his family, that they will readily and cheerfully enter into the consideration of that matter when the same shall be laid before them.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 6, 1766.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is with the utmost satisfaction that I have observed the wisdom and moderation which have uniformly guided you through the many important deliberations in which you have been engaged during the course of this long and interesting session of Parliament. I persuade myself that the most salutary effects must be the natural result of deliberations conducted upon such principles.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the supplies which you have so cheerfully given for the several establishments, and for the support of public credit: and you may rest assured that no œconomy will be wanting to render them effectual for the purposes for which they were granted.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The present general disposition of all the powers of Europe seems to indicate a continuance of peace: and it is my earnest desire to preserve the general tranquillity, by fulfilling on my part, all the engagements I am under by treaties. And on this foundation, I may reasonably hope and expect the same strict performance of those engagements which other powers are under to my crown.

The many regulations which you have made for extending and promoting the trade and manufactures of Great Britain, and for settling the mutual intercourse of my kingdoms and plantations, in such a manner as to provide for the improvement of the colonies, on a plan of due subordination to the commercial interests of the mother country, are the strongest proofs of your equitable and comprehensive regard to the welfare of all my dominions, an object truly worthy of a British Parliament.

It shall be my endeavour that such care be taken as may tend to secure and improve the advantages which may be expected from such wise and salutary provisions.

I have nothing further to recommend to you than that you will exert your best endeavours in your respective counties to enforce the execution of the laws, and to promote good manners and good order among my people, whose true and lasting happiness shall be my constant care, and upon whose affections I shall always firmly rely.

Then

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Saturday, the twelfth day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Saturday, the twelfth day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, November 11, 1766.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE high price of wheat and the defective produce of that grain last harvest, together with the extraordinary demands for the same from foreign parts, have principally determined me to call you thus early together, that I might have the sense of Parliament as soon as conveniently might be on a matter so important, and particularly affecting the poorer sort of my subjects.

The urgency of the necessity called upon me, in the mean time, to exert my royal authority for the preservation of the public safety against a growing calamity which could not admit of delay. I have therefore, by and with the advice of my privy council, laid an embargo on wheat and wheat flour going out of the kingdom, until the advice of Parliament could be taken thereupon.

If further provisions of law be requisite or expedient with regard to the dearness of corn, so necessary to the sustenance of the poorer sort, they cannot escape the wisdom of Parliament, to which I recommend the due consideration thereof.

At the same time I must with concern take notice, that notwithstanding my cares for my people, a spirit of the most daring insurrection has in many places broke forth in violences of the most criminal nature.

Necessary orders have been given for bringing such dangerous offenders to condign punishment and speedy justice; nor shall vigilance and vigour on my part be wanting to restore obedience and reverence to law and government.

I have the satisfaction to inform you, that since I last met you I have concluded a treaty of commerce with my good sister, the Empress of Russia, whereby that considerable branch of trade is fixed on a just and satisfactory footing.

It is with pleasure that I also acquaint you, that the marriage between my good brother, the King of Denmark, and my sister, the Princess Caroline Matilda, has been solemnized, and the

the natural alliance between the two crowns happily strengthened by an additional tye of so agreeable a nature.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the proper estimates for the current service of the year to be laid before you.

Such supplies as you may grant shall be duly applied with the utmost fidelity and strictest regard to the objects for which they are granted.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The general posture of affairs in Europe affords no occasion to lay any thing new before you upon that head. My purposes are constant and fixed to maintain, on my part, the public tranquillity inviolate; and to support the dignity of my crown, and the rights of my subjects. The justice and wisdom of the other great powers of Europe leave no room to apprehend any intentions of a contrary nature.

Address by the House of Lords, Nov. 12, 1766.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our unfeigned thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

It is with the sincerest satisfaction that we congratulate your Majesty on the addition to your royal family by the birth of a princess royal; ever mindful of that Divine blessing to which we owe the preservation of our religion and constitution by the succession of your illustrious house to the throne of these kingdoms, and of the happiness we, together with all your Majesty's subjects, have enjoyed under their most auspicious government.

Permit us also, Sir, to congratulate your Majesty on the solemnization of the marriage of your Majesty's sister, the Princess Caroline Matilda, with the King of Denmark, by which the natural alliance between the two crowns receives such additional strength and support.

We acknowledge, with the truest gratitude, the paternal affection and tender concern which your Majesty has shewn for your people, by laying an embargo on wheat and wheat flour, until the sense of Parliament could be taken thereon; preventing, by this measure, the immediate and dangerous consequences which would have arisen to the public welfare, and

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more particularly, to the ease and comfort of the poorer sort of your subjects, from a scarcity of that grain.

We shall give, on our part, the most earnest attention to the consideration of every means by which the evils of scarcity may be effectually prevented; anxious to forward the gracious and salutary purposes which your Majesty constantly manifests for the welfare of every rank of your subjects. Truly sensible of your Majesty's royal wisdom, in having given the necessary orders for bringing the offenders against the public peace to condign punishment and speedy justice, we beg leave to assure your Majesty of our resolution to pursue and maintain measures so indispensably necessary for the suppression of riot and licentiousness, and for enforcing that respect and obedience which are due to government.

We gratefully acknowledge the communication it has pleased your Majesty to make to us, of a treaty of commerce being concluded with the Empress of Russia. The security given thereby to so considerable a branch of trade, by fixing it on a just and satisfactory footing, is a fresh instance of your Majesty's constant care and concern for the commercial interests of these kingdoms.

Animated with the truest sentiments of duty, zeal, and affection, we thankfully receive the just and wise declaration of your Majesty's intentions to maintain the public tranquillity, as well as to support the dignity of the crown, and the rights of your people.

His Majesty's Answer, November 12, 1766.

My Lords,

THE sense you express of the measures which the safety of my people put me under the necessity of taking during the recess of my Parliament, affords me the highest satisfaction. I rely on your assurances, that you will consider with attention the proper means of preventing the evils of scarcity, and the necessary measures for enforcing that obedience and reverence which are due to laws and government.

Your approbation of the treaty of commerce which I have concluded with my good sister, the Empress of Russia, is extremely agreeable to me; and I receive with particular pleasure your congratulations on the birth of my daughter the princess royal, and on the marriage of my sister, the Princess Caroline Matilda, with my good brother, the King of Denmark.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 12, 1766.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our most humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We desire your Majesty will believe, that we entertain the most grateful sense of the paternal and tender regard your Majesty has shewn for the welfare of your people, by laying an embargo on wheat and wheat flour going out of the kingdom, until your Majesty should have the advice of your Parliament on that important subject.

And we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons will not fail, agreeably to your Majesty's recommendation, to take this weighty matter into our most serious consideration, in order, by timely and effectual measures, to pursue the two great ends which your Majesty's wisdom has pointed out, of providing against the many evils attending a dearness or scarcity of corn, especially to the poorer sort of your Majesty's subjects; and, at the same time, of suppressing that daring and dangerous spirit of riot, which has of late too generally shewn itself in many parts of this kingdom.

It is with the greatest satisfaction that we assure your Majesty of our unfeigned joy on the safe and happy delivery of her Majesty on the birth of a princess; every increase of your Majesty's royal family being a fresh pledge of the future liberty and happiness of your people.

And, animated with the same zeal, we most heartily congratulate your Majesty on the solemnization of the marriage of your Majesty's sister, the Princess Caroline Matilda, with the King of Denmark; by which the union with that ancient natural ally of your Majesty's crown is strengthened by a fresh tye of the most endearing kind.

We return your Majesty our very sincere thanks for your gracious communication, that a treaty of commerce had been lately concluded with the Empress of Russia; which, whilst it gives us hopes of seeing that important branch of our trade continued hereafter on a solid and advantageous footing, is a new proof of your Majesty's constant regard for the true interest of this commercial nation.

It is with the utmost cheerfulness that your Majesty's faithful Commons will grant such supplies as shall be necessary for the service of the year; having the utmost confidence in the assurance

assurance your Majesty is pleased to give, that they will be punctually applied to those purposes for which they shall be granted.

We beg your Majesty will permit us to express our highest satisfaction on the present happy establishment of the public tranquillity; and the well-grounded hopes we entertain, from the wisdom of your Majesty's councils, and the influence of your example, that, while your Majesty wisely unites, with the resolution to support the dignity of your crown, and the rights of your people, a true zeal for the general peace and happiness of mankind, the same spirit of equity and moderation which animates your Majesty's conduct will direct the councils of the other great powers of Europe to the like just and salutary views.

His Majesty's Answer, November 14, 1766.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my most hearty thanks for your loyal and affectionate address. The part you take in the late happy events in my family completes the satisfaction I receive from them. I see with pleasure the continuance of that zeal and true public spirit, which I have always experienced in my faithful Commons, by your early attention to the several great objects recommended to your consideration, and particularly to the means of providing against the evils attending a scarcity of corn, and for securing the tranquillity of the country. You may depend on my invariable attention to the happiness and prosperity of my kingdom.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 2, 1767.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE advanced season of the year, joined to the consideration of the inconvenience you must all have felt from so long an absence from your several countries, calls upon me to put an end to the present session of Parliament; which I cannot do, without returning you my thanks for your diligent application to the public business, and the proofs you have given of your affection for me, for my family, and for my government: and although, from the nature and extensiveness of the several objects under your consideration, it could not be expected that all the great commercial interests should be completely adjusted and

regulated in the course of this session, yet I am persuaded, that, by the progress you have made, a solid foundation is laid for securing the most considerable and essential benefits to this nation.

As no material alteration has happened in the state of foreign affairs since your first meeting, I have nothing to communicate to you on that subject. The fixed objects of all my measures are, to preserve the peace, and at the same time to assert and maintain the honour of my crown, and the just rights of my subjects.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the necessary supplies which you have so cheerfully granted for the public service; and my particular acknowledgments are due to you for the provision you have enabled me to make for the more honorable support and maintenance of my family.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The great attention which you have shewn to the particular purpose for which I called you so early together, and the very wholesome laws passed for relieving my subjects from the immediate distress which the great scarcity of corn threatened to bring upon them, give me the most sensible pleasure. I rely upon you for the exertion of your utmost endeavours to convince my people, that no care has been wanting to procure for them every relief which has been possible; and that their grateful sense of provisions, so wisely made for their present happiness and lasting prosperity, cannot be so fully expressed, as by a strict observance of that order and regularity which are equally necessary to the security of all good government, as well as to their own real welfare.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Monday, the thirty-first day of August next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Monday, the thirty-first day of August next.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 24, 1767.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE chosen to call you together at this season of the year, that my Parliament might have full time for their deliberations upon all such branches of the public service as may require their immediate attention; without the necessity of continuing the session beyond the time most suitable to my people for the election of a new Parliament: and I doubt not but you will be careful, from the same considerations, to avoid in your proceedings all unnecessary delay.

Nothing in the present situation of affairs abroad gives me reason to apprehend that you will be prevented by any interruption of the public tranquillity, from fixing your whole attention upon such points as concern the internal welfare and prosperity of my people.

Among these objects of a domestic nature, none can demand a more speedy or more serious attention than what regards the high price of corn, which neither the salutary laws passed in the last session of Parliament nor the produce of the last harvest have yet been able so far to reduce as to give sufficient relief to the poorer sort of my people. Your late residence in your several countries must have enabled you to judge whether any farther provisions can be made conducive to the attainment of so desirable an end.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I will order the proper officers to lay before you the estimates for the service of the ensuing year.

The experience I have had of your constant readiness to grant me all such supplies as should be found necessary for the security, interest, and honour of the nation, (and I have no other to ask of you) renders it unnecessary for me to add any exhortations upon this head; and I doubt not but the same public considerations will induce you to persevere, with equal alacrity, in your endeavours to diminish the national debt; while on my part, no care shall be wanting to contribute, as far as possible, to the attainment of that most essential object, by every frugal application of such supplies as you shall grant.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The necessity of improving the present general tranquillity to the greatest purpose of maintaining the strength, the reputation, and the prosperity of this country, ought to be ever before your eyes. To render your deliberations for that purpose successful,

cessful, endeavour to cultivate a spirit of harmony among yourselves. My concurrence in whatever will promote the happiness of my people you may always depend upon; and in that light I shall ever be desirous of encouraging union among all those who wish well to their country.

Address to his Majesty by the House of Lords, Nov. 25, 1767.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We acknowledge with gratitude your Majesty's tender regard and concern for your people, in assembling the Parliament at such a season, as, whilst it provides for the convenience of your people, will allow sufficient time for our deliberations on the several branches of the public service that may require our immediate attention: and we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that it shall be our hearty desire to forward your Majesty's most gracious purpose, by avoiding in our proceedings all unnecessary delay.

We sincerely rejoice in the prospect of the continuance of the general tranquillity; and it is our firm resolution to give, at a time so favourable for such considerations, our strictest attention to all those objects that may more immediately affect the internal welfare and happiness of your people.

We assure your Majesty, that our earnest endeavours shall not be wanting for the relief of the distresses which the poor labour under from the high price of corn, if any farther provisions can be made conducive to so desirable an end.

Permit us, Sir, to congratulate your Majesty on the safe delivery of the Queen and the birth of a prince; and to assure your Majesty of our unfeigned joy on any increase of your domestic felicity; at the same time that we consider every addition to your illustrious house as a further security of our religious and civil liberties.

We beg leave to condole with your Majesty on the death of his Royal Highness the Duke of York, and to testify our sincere concern for the loss of a prince, whose virtues and amiable qualities, as they distinguished his life, will ever be held in the most grateful remembrance.

Your Majesty may be assured, that being fully sensible of the necessity of improving the present tranquillity to the purpose

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of maintaining the ſtrength, the reputation, and proſperity of this country, we will cheerfully contribute, on our part, to the ſucceſs of ſuch meaſures as ſhall be thought moſt expedient for the attainment of that great end: and that, with this view, we ſhall endeavour to cultivate that ſpirit of harmony and union, which your Majeſty, in your paternal care for the happineſs of your people, has moſt graciouſly recommended from the throne; and on which the ſucceſs of our councils and the public welfare ſo eſſentially depend.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 25, 1767.

My Lords,

YOUR readineſs to provide for the public ſervices with the unanimity and diſpatch ſo neceſſary at this juncture, as well as to avail yourſelves of the preſent general tranquillity, in order to promote the internal proſperity of my people, is highly agreeable to me; and I rely upon your aſſurances, that you will uſe your endeavours to relieve the diſtreſſes which the poor labour under from the high price of corn.

I thank you for the joy you expreſs on the increaſe of my royal family; and I feel for the part you take in my concern for the unexpected loſs of my late brother, the Duke of York.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Commons, Nov. 25, 1767.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, return your Majeſty our moſt humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We beg leave moſt gratefully to acknowledge your Majeſty's goodneſs and attention to the convenience of your people, in calling your Parliament together at this time; and to aſſure your Majeſty, that we will endeavour to improve the opportunity which the preſent happy ſtate of peace and tranquillity affords, by exerting our utmoſt abilities in the proſecution of ſuch meaſures as may moſt effectually promote the public welfare and proſperity.

We are equally ſenſible of your Majeſty's paternal care, in the meaſures already taken by your Majeſty to alleviate the diſtreſſes of the poor, and of your royal wiſdom in recommending the ſame intereſting and important object to the conſideration of your Parliament; and we will not fail to take into our

moſt

most attentive deliberation, all such measures as shall appear conducive to the accomplishment of that great and most desirable end.

It is with unfeigned joy that we presume to offer our congratulations to your Majesty on the late increase of your royal family by the birth of a prince; and to assure your Majesty, that we regard, as an addition to the welfare and happiness of this nation, every increase of that illustrious house, under whose mild and auspicious government our religious and civil liberties have been so happily maintained and protected.

And it is with equal grief and anxiety that we reflect on the late untimely loss of your Majesty's royal brother, the Duke of York, whose early and ready zeal in his country's cause shewed him worthy of the heroic race he sprang from; and whose amiable virtues in the more private scenes of his life must ever make his memory dear to all who had the happiness of approaching him.

We beg leave most humbly to assure your Majesty, that this House will, with a zeal and alacrity becoming the representatives of an affectionate and grateful people, readily grant such supplies as shall be requisite for the support of your Majesty's government, for advancing the honour and interest of this country, and effectually providing for the public safety:

And that our regard to your Majesty's recommendation, as well as the indispensable duty we owe to those whom we represent, will make us earnestly attentive to the great object of diminishing the national debt; being convinced that nothing can so effectually tend to add real lustre and dignity to your Majesty's government, or to give solid and permanent strength to these kingdoms.

With these views, and in these sentiments, we will endeavour, with the utmost unanimity and dispatch, to promote the public service, and to deserve, by our sincere and unwearied labours for the general good, that confidence which it has pleased your Majesty to repose in us; not doubting of your Majesty's gracious disposition to confirm and perfect what our true zeal may suggest for the lasting advantage and happiness of your people.

His Majesty's Answer, Nov. 27, 1767.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my very sincere thanks for your dutiful and loyal address; the part you take in the late happy event in my family completes the satisfaction which I receive from it; and your

your affection to me appears equally manifest from the share you take in the melancholy incident which we all regret, and serves as a consolation to me. I see, with pleasure, the continuance of that zeal, and true public spirit, which I have long experienced in my faithful Commons, by your attention to the several objects recommended to your consideration, and particularly to the means of providing against a scarcity of corn, and for paying the public debt. You may depend upon my invariable attention to the happiness and prosperity of my kingdom.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, March 10, 1768.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE readiness with which you entered into the views I recommended to you at the opening of this session, and the assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the dispatch of the public business, give me great satisfaction. At the same time, the affectionate concern you have shewn for the welfare of your fellow subjects, by the salutary laws passed for their relief, in respect to the high price of provisions, cannot fail of securing to you their most grateful regard.

I have nothing new to communicate to you in relation to foreign affairs. The apparent interests of the several powers in Europe, as well as the express assurances I have received from them, leave me no room to doubt of their disposition to preserve the general tranquillity. And, on my part, you may rest assured, that every measure that is consistent with the honour of my crown, and the rights of my subjects, shall be steadily directed to that most salutary purpose.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

Your cheerfulness in granting the necessary supplies, and your attention to the ease of my good subjects in the manner of raising them, equally demand my acknowledgments. I see, with pleasure, that you have been able to prosecute your plan for the diminution of the national debt, without laying any additional burden upon my people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

As the time limited by law for the expiration of this Parliament now draws near, I have resolved forthwith to issue my proclamation for dissolving it, and for calling a new Parliament. But I cannot do this without having first returned you my thanks for the many signal proofs you have given of the most affectionate attachment to my person, family, and government,

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the most faithful attention to the public service, and the most earnest zeal for the preservation of our excellent constitution. When, by the vigorous support which you gave me during the war, I had been enabled, under the Divine Provid nce, to restore to my people the blessings of peace, you continued to exert yourselves, with equal alacrity and steadiness, in pursuing every measure that could contribute to the maintenance of the public safety and tranquillity, which you well understood could no otherwise be preserved, than by establishing, on a respectable foundation, the strength, the credit, and the commerce of the nation. The large supplies you have from time to time granted, and the wise regulations you have made for these important purposes, will, I am persuaded, be found to have been productive of the most beneficial consequences.

In the approaching election of representatives I doubt not but my people will give me fresh proofs of their attachment to the true interest of their country, which I shall ever receive as the most acceptable mark of their affection to me. The welfare of all my subjects is my first object. Nothing, therefore, has ever given me more real concern than to see any of them, in any part of my dominions, attempting to loosen those bonds of constitutional subordination so essential to the welfare of the whole. But it is with much satisfaction that I now see them returning to a more just sense of what their own interest, no less than their duty, indispensably requires of them, and thereby giving me the prospect of continuing to reign over an happy, because an united people.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to this day three weeks, the thirty-first day of this instant, March: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to this day three weeks, the thirty-first day of this instant, March.

Speech by the Lords Commissioners to both Houses, May 11, 1768.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN pursuance of the authority given us by his Majesty's commission under the great seal, amongst other things, to declare the causes of your present meeting, we are, by the King's command, to acquaint you, that his Majesty has not called you

you together at this unusual season of the year in order to lay before you any matters of general business, but merely to give you an opportunity of dispatching certain parliamentary proceedings, which his Majesty's desire of providing, at all events, for the welfare and security of his good subjects, makes him wish to see completed as soon as possible, and with that dispatch which the public convenience, as well as your own, require. His Majesty, at the same time, has commanded us to assure you of his perfect confidence in this Parliament; and that he has the strongest reason to expect every thing from their advice and assistance, that loyalty, wisdom, and zeal for the public good can dictate or suggest.

Address by both Houses to his Majesty, May 14, 1768.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our most hearty thanks for that gracious and paternal attention to the welfare of your people, which has induced your Majesty, at this time, to interpose your own more immediate authority for putting an end to that dangerous disturbance of the public peace, those outrageous acts of violence to the property of your Majesty's subjects, and that most audacious defiance of the authority of the civil magistrates, which have of late prevailed to so alarming a degree in and near this great metropolis.

Your Majesty's express command, signified by your royal proclamation, that all the laws for preventing, suppressing, and punishing all riots, tumults, and unlawful assemblies, be put into immediate execution, will, we hope, effectually prevent the continuance or repetition of these disorders.

But should any of your Majesty's subjects continue so lost to all sense of their own true interest, as well as duty, as to go on to interrupt, by their lawless and desperate practices, that quiet and peaceable enjoyment of every right and privilege allotted to each individual among us by our excellent constitution, which it has ever been your Majesty's first object and chief glory to secure and perpetuate to us all; permit us, your Majesty's truly dutiful and grateful subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament assembled, to assure your Majesty of our ready concurrence in every measure that may contribute to enable your Majesty most effectually to maintain the public authority, and to carry the laws into due execution; and of our determined resolution most cheerfully

fully and vigorously to support your Majesty against every attempt to create difficulty or disturbance to your Majesty's government.

His Majesty's Answer, May 14, 1768.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I RECEIVE, with great satisfaction, this loyal, dutiful, and seasonable address of both Houses of Parliament. It is with the utmost concern that I see this spirit of outrage and violence prevailing among different classes of my subjects. I am, however, convinced, that the vigorous exertion of lawful authority, which I will continue to enforce, joined to your support and assistance, will have the desired effect of restoring quiet and good order among my subjects.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 8, 1768.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE opportunity which the late general election gives me of knowing, from their representatives in Parliament, the more immediate sense of my people, has made me desirous of meeting you as early as could be, consistent with your own convenience. The shortness of the last session of the late Parliament prevented their prosecuting the consideration of those great commercial interests which had been entered upon in the preceding session. You will, I am persuaded, agree with me in opinion, that your deliberations on those very important objects ought to be resumed without loss of time; and, I trust, that they will terminate in such measures as may be productive of the most considerable and essential benefits to this nation.

It would have given me great satisfaction to have been able to acquaint you, that all the other powers of Europe had been as careful as I have ever been to avoid taking any step that might endanger the general tranquillity. I have constantly received, and do still receive from them, the strongest assurances of their pacific dispositions towards this country. No assurances, however, shall divert my constant resolution steadfastly to attend to the general interests of Europe; nor shall any consideration prevail upon me to suffer any attempt that may be made derogatory to the honour and dignity of my crown, or injurious to the rights of my people.

At the close of the last Parliament I expressed my satisfaction at the appearances which then induced me to believe that such

such of my subjects as had been misled in some part of my dominions were returning to a just sense of their duty. But it is with equal concern that I have since seen that spirit of faction, which I had hoped was well nigh extinguished, breaking out afresh in some of my colonies in North America; and in one of them proceeding even to acts of violence, and of resistance to the execution of the law; the capital town of which colony appears, by late advices, to be in a state of disobedience to all law and government; and has proceeded to measures subversive of the constitution, and attended with circumstances that manifest a disposition to throw off their dependence on Great Britain. On my part I have pursued every measure that appeared to be necessary for supporting the constitution, and inducing a due obedience to the authority of the legislature. You may rely upon my steady perseverance in these purposes; and I doubt not but that, with your concurrence and support, I shall be able to defeat the mischievous designs of those turbulent and seditious persons, who, under false pretences, have but too successfully deluded numbers of my subjects in America; and whose practices, if suffered to prevail, cannot fail to produce the most fatal consequences to my colonies immediately, and, in the end, to all the dominions of my crown.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The proper estimates for the service of the ensuing year I have ordered to be laid before you, fully relying on your readiness to grant me the necessary supplies. Indeed I cannot have a doubt of finding, in this House of Commons, the same affectionate attachment to my person and government as I have always hitherto experienced from my faithful Commons.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is with great satisfaction that I now find myself enabled to rejoice with you upon the relief which the poorer sort of my people are now enjoying from the distress which they had so long laboured under from the high price of corn. At the same time that we are bound devoutly to acknowledge, in this instance, the gracious interposition of Providence, it will become us to apply the best precautions that human wisdom can suggest, for guarding against the return of the late calamity. In the choice, however, of proper means for that purpose, you cannot proceed with too great circumspection.

I have nothing further to recommend to you, than, that in all your deliberations, you keep up a spirit of harmony among yourselves. Whatever differences of opinion may prevail in

other points, let it appear, that, wherever the interest of your country is immediately concerned, you are all ready to unite. Such an example from you cannot fail of having the best effects upon the temper of my people in every part of my dominions; and can alone produce that general union among ourselves, which will render us properly respected abroad, and happy at home.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, November 9, 1768.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We desire, with hearts full of gratitude, to acknowledge that royal goodness, so evidently manifest to all your people by your Majesty's constant attention to the great commercial interests of this country. We should be wanting on our part, if we did not apply to the consideration of them with that alacrity which objects, so very important, and capable of producing the most essential benefits to the nation, demand of us.

The resolution which your Majesty is pleased to express, that you will not suffer any attempt to be made derogatory to the honour and dignity of your crown, or injurious to the rights of your people, does, and ever will, call from us the assurances of our most cheerful support; nor do we conceive, that any conduct can contribute more than this will, to render all the other powers of Europe as careful as your Majesty has ever been, to avoid taking any step that may endanger the general tranquillity.

We feel the most sincere concern, that any of our fellow subjects in North America should be misled, by factious and designing men, into acts of violence and of resistance to the execution of the law, attended with circumstances that manifest a disposition to throw off their dependence upon Great Britain. At the same time, that we shall be always ready to contribute to the relief of any real grievance of your Majesty's American subjects, we most unfeignedly give your Majesty the strongest assurances, that we shall ever zealously concur in support of such just and necessary measures, as may best enable your Majesty to repress that daring spirit of disobedience, and to enforce a due submission to the laws: always considering, that it is one of our most essential duties to maintain inviolate the supreme

authority of the legiflature of Great Britain over every part of the dominions of your Majefty's crown.

We thankfully adore the merciful interpofition of Providence in the relief which the poorer fort of your Majefty's fubjects have received, from the diftrefs they had fo long laboured under from the high price of corn. We fhall apply our utmoft attention to prevent, as far as in human prudence lies, the return of fuch a calamity; and fhall give fo important a fubject that full confideration, which the nature of it neceffarily requires.

Engaged in the deliberation of fo many important matters, we beg leave to affure your Majefty, that we fhall ftudioufly endeavour, that our proceedings may teftify our readinefs to unite, wherever the intereft of our country and our attachment to your Majefty is concerned. Happy, if by fuch an example the deluded part of your Majefty's fubjects may be induced to return to their duty, and gratefully feel the bleffings of the mildeft government, and moft perfect conftitution.

His Majefty's Anfwer, November 9, 1768.

My Lords,

I RECEIVE, with great fatisfaction, the affurances you give of your refolution to purfue the commercial interefts of this country; and your readinefs to fupport the honour of my crown, and the rights of my people.

Your zealous concurrence in every meafure that can bring relief to my people, is well known to me; nor do I doubt of the attention that you will always give to any real grievances of my American fubjects. The ftrong affurances I receive from you at the fame time, of your determination to vindicate the juft legiflative authority of Parliament over all the dominions of my crown, deferve my warmeft approbation.

Joint Addrefs by both Houfes of Parliament, Feb. 13, 1769.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Lords fpiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament affembled, return your Majefty our humble thanks for the communication your Majefty has been gracioufly pleafed to make to your Parliament, of feveral papers relative to public tranfactions in your Majefty's province of Maffachufett's Bay.

We beg leave to exprefs to your Majefty our fincere fatisfaction in the meafures which your Majefty has purfued for fup

porting the conſtitution, and for inducing a due obedience to the authority of the legiſlature; and to give your Majeſty the ſtrongeſt aſſurances, that we will effectually ſtand by and ſupport your Majeſty in ſuch farther meaſures, as may be found neceſſary to maintain the civil magiſtrates in a due execution of the laws within your Majeſty's province of Maſſachuſett's Bay: And as we conceive that nothing can be more immediately neceſſary, either for the maintenance of your Majeſty's authority in the ſaid province, or for guarding your Majeſty's ſubjects therein from being farther deluded by the arts of wicked and deſigning men, than to proceed in the moſt ſpeedy and effectual manner for bringing to condign puniſhment the chief authors and inſtigators of the late diſorders; we moſt humbly beſeech your Majeſty, that you will be graciouſly pleaſed to direct your Majeſty's governor of Maſſachuſett's Bay, to take the moſt effectual methods for procuring the fulleſt information that can be obtained, touching all treaſons, or miſpriſions of treaſons, committed within his government, ſince the thirtieth day of December, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſeven; and to tranſmit the ſame, together with the names of the perſons who were moſt active in the commiſſion of ſuch offences, to one of your Majeſty's principal ſecretaries of ſtate, in order that your Majeſty may iſſue a ſpecial commiſſion for inquiring of, hearing, and determining, the ſaid offences within this realm, purſuant to the proviſions of the ſtatute of the thirty-fifth year of the reign of King Henry the Eighth, in caſe your Majeſty ſhall, upon receiving the ſaid information, ſee ſufficient ground for ſuch a proceeding.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, Feb. 13, 1769.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE ſincere ſatisfaction you expreſs in the meaſures which I have already taken, and the ſtrong aſſurances you give of ſupporting me in thoſe which may be ſtill neceſſary to maintain the juſt legiſlative authority, and the due execution of the laws, in my province of Maſſachuſett's Bay, give me great pleaſure.

I ſhall not fail to give thoſe orders which you recommend as the moſt effectual method of bringing the authors of the late unhappy diſorders in that province to condign puniſhment.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, May 9, 1769.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HAVING thought it necessary to give so early a commencement to the present session of Parliament, I am glad to find, that, by your zeal and assiduity in the dispatch of the public business, I am now enabled to relieve you from your attendance, before the season of the year is too far advanced.

I cannot put an end to the session without expressing my entire approbation of your conduct; and thanking you for that clear demonstration which your proceedings, through the whole course of the session, have afforded to all the world, of the affectionate attachment of my Parliament to my person and government, as well as of their steady adherence to the true interest of their country.

It was with much satisfaction that I observed your particular attention to those great national objects, which, at the opening of the session, I recommended to your more immediate consideration. The result of your deliberations respecting the late acquisitions in the East Indies has shewn, that you were not more attentive to the immediate benefit arising therefrom, in point of revenue, than to the securing, at all events, the permanent commercial interests of this country; and guarding against every possible discouragement to our own manufactures, and to the industry of my subjects. What more remains to be done for securing the possession of those valuable acquisitions, you will, I doubt not, proceed to provide for with all convenient dispatch at your next meeting.

The measures which I had taken, regarding the late unhappy disturbances in North America, have been already laid before you. They have received your approbation; and you have assured me of your firm support in the prosecution of them. Nothing, in my opinion, could be more likely to enable the well-disposed among my subjects in that part of the world, effectually to discourage and defeat the designs of the factious and seditious, than the hearty concurrence of every branch of the legislature in the resolution of maintaining the execution of the laws in every part of my dominions; and there is nothing I more ardently wish for, than to see it produce that good effect.

With respect to foreign affairs, my own determination, as well as the assurances given me by the other powers of Europe, continue the same, as I communicated to you at the beginning of this session. And however unsuccessfully attempts have proved for preventing the unfortunate rupture, which has hap-

pened between Russia and the Porte, I shall not fail to use my good offices towards restoring peace between those powers; and I trust, that the calamities of war will not extend to any other part of Europe.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

My particular thanks are due to you, as well for the supplies which you have granted me for the services of the current year, as for the provision which you have made, for enabling me to discharge the debt incurred upon account of my civil government. Your readiness in relieving me from the difficulties increasing upon me from the continuance of that debt, I shall ever consider as an additional motive for me to endeavour to confine the expenses of my civil government within such bounds, as the honour of my crown can possibly admit.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It gives me great concern to be obliged to recommend to you, with more than ordinary earnestness, that you would all, in your several countries, exert your utmost efforts for the maintenance of public peace, and of good order, among my people. You must be sensible, that whatever obstructs, in any degree, the regular execution of the laws, or weakens the authority of the magistrate, must lessen the only security which my people can have for the undisturbed enjoyment of their rights and liberties. From your endeavours in this common cause, I promise myself the most salutary effect. On my part, no countenance or support shall be wanting: for as I ever made, and ever shall make, our excellent constitution the rule of my own conduct, so shall I always consider it as equally my duty to exert every power with which that constitution has intrusted me, for preserving it safe from violation of every kind; being fully convinced that, in so doing, I shall most effectually provide for the true interest and happiness of my people.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Wednesday, the fourteenth of June next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Wednesday, the fourteenth day of June next.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, January 9, 1770.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is with much concern that I find myself obliged to open this session of Parliament with acquainting you, that the distemper among the horned cattle has lately broke out in this kingdom, notwithstanding every precaution that could be used for preventing the infection from foreign parts. Upon the first notice of its actual appearance, my next attention was to endeavour to stop, if possible, its farther progress: and, as the success of those endeavours must, in all probability, have been entirely defeated by any the least degree of delay in the application of them, I thought it absolutely necessary, with the advice of my privy council, to give immediate directions for every step to be taken, that appeared most capable of checking the instant danger of the spreading of the infection, until I could have an opportunity of consulting my Parliament upon some more permanent measures for securing us against so great a calamity: and to your immediate and most serious consideration I earnestly recommend this very important object.

I have given my Parliament repeated assurances, that it has always been my fixed purpose to preserve the general tranquillity; maintaining, at the same time, the dignity and honour of my crown, together with the just rights and interests of my people. The uncommon burdens which my subjects have borne so cheerfully, in order to bring the late war to a happy conclusion, must be an additional motive to make me vigilant to prevent the present disturbances in Europe from extending to any part where the security, honour, or interest of this nation may make it necessary for my crown to become a party. The assurances which I receive from the other great powers afford me reason to believe that my endeavours will continue to be successful. I shall still make the general interests of Europe the object of my attention; and while I steadily support my own rights, I shall be equally careful not to acknowledge the claims of any other powers, contrary to the limitations of the late treaties of peace.

It is needless for me to recommend to the serious attention of my Parliament the state of my government in America. I have endeavoured, on my part, by every means, to bring back my subjects there to their duty, and to a due sense of lawful authority. It gives me much concern to inform you, that the success of my endeavours has not answered my expectations; and that in some of my colonies many persons have embarked in measures

measures highly unwarrantable, and calculated to destroy the commercial connection between them and the mother country.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the proper estimates for the service of the current year to be laid before you. I am persuaded that your affection for my person and government, and your zeal for the public good will induce you to grant such supplies as are necessary; and you may be assured that on my part they shall be managed with the strictest œconomy.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

As the welfare and prosperity of my people have always been the object of my wishes, and the rule of my actions; so I am persuaded, from my experience of your conduct, that you will be governed in your proceedings by the same principles. My ready concurrence and support in every measure that may serve to promote those ends, you may always depend upon. On you it will be now more than ever incumbent most carefully to avoid all heats and animosities amongst yourselves, and to cultivate that spirit of harmony which becomes those who have but one common object in their view, and which may be most likely to give authority and efficacy to the result of your deliberations. Such a conduct on your part, will, above all things, contribute to maintain in their proper lustre, the strength, the reputation, and the prosperity of this country, to strengthen the attachment of my subjects to that excellent constitution of government, from which they derive such distinguished advantages; and to cause the firm reliance and confidence which I have in the wisdom of my Parliament, as well as in their zeal for the true interest of my people, to be justified and approved both at home and abroad.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Jan. 10, 1770.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty that it is with the greatest concern we have understood that the distemper among the horned cattle has lately broke out in this kingdom. We desire to express our gratitude for your Majesty's paternal care and

and attention to the welfare of your people, in the ſteps which it has pleaſed your Majeſty to take, with the advice of your privy council, to check the inſtant danger of the ſpreading of the diſtemper, upon the firſt notice of its appearance; and to aſſure your Majeſty that we will immediately enter into the moſt ſerious conſideration of this very important object, and will exert our utmoſt endeavours in taking ſuch effectual meaſures as may ſecure us againſt ſo great a calamity.

We return your Majeſty our thanks for the repeated aſſurances your Majeſty has been pleaſed to give us, of your fixed purpoſe to preſerve the peace, maintaining at the ſame time, the dignity of your crown, and the intereſts of your people. We have a dutiful ſenſe of your Majeſty's provident attention to prevent the neceſſity of involving your ſubjects in freſh difficulties, after the great burdens to which they have ſo chearfully ſubmitted, in order to bring the late war to a happy concluſion; and we have great ſatiſfaction in finding that the aſſurances given to your Majeſty by the other great powers of Europe afford reaſon to believe that without prejudice either to the honour of your crown, the rights of your people, or the general intereſts of Europe, it may ſtill be in your Majeſty's power to continue to your ſubjects the farther enjoyment of the bleſſings of peace.

We aſſure your Majeſty that we will take into our moſt ſerious conſideration the ſtate of your government in America. We beg leave to expreſs our utmoſt concern, that the ſucceſs of your Majeſty's endeavours to bring back your ſubjects there to a due ſenſe of lawful authority, have not anſwered your Majeſty's expectations. We ſhall be ready to give every aſſiſtance in our power for rendering effectual theſe your Majeſty's gracious intentions, and for diſcountenancing thoſe unwarrantable meaſures practiſed in ſome of your Majeſty's colonies, which appear calculated to deſtroy the commercial connection between them and the mother country.

We think it our duty to aſſure your Majeſty, that we are thoroughly ſenſible that the welfare of your people has ever been the object of your wiſhes, and the rule of all your actions; and that we will endeavour to deſerve the favourable opinion which your Majeſty is graciouſly pleaſed to expreſs, of our being governed by the ſame principles: that we have a perfect reliance on your Majeſty's promiſed ſupport in ſuch meaſures as may ſerve to promote thoſe ends. That as it is peculiarly incumbent on us at preſent to avoid heats and animoſities among ourſelves, ſo we ſhall endeavour to cultivate that harmony which is ſo neceſſary to the common cauſe, and which alone can render our deliberations reſpectable and effectual; being fully

fully persuaded that such a conduct on our part must greatly contribute to the happiness and prosperity of this country, and to establish a due sense of the very distinguished advantages of our happy constitution, as well as a firm attachment to it, and must justify, both at home and abroad, your Majesty's gracious confidence in the wisdom of your Parliament, and in their zeal for the true interests of your people.

His Majesty's Answer, January 10, 1770.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this affectionate and loyal address. Your resolution to enter immediately into the consideration of such measures as may best secure us against the spreading of the distemper among the horned cattle, affords me great satisfaction.

I have strong reliance on your determination to give me every assistance in your power to support my government in America.

Your assurances of duty and loyalty towards me, and your resolution to cultivate harmony among yourselves, give me very sincere pleasure.

Address by both Houses to his Majesty, March 23, 1770.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and faithful subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, having taken into consideration the address lately presented to your Majesty, under the title of "The humble Address, Remonstrance, and Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of the City of London, in Common Hall assembled," together with the answer which your Majesty was pleased to make to the same; think ourselves indispensably obliged upon this occasion, to express to your Majesty the extreme concern and indignation which we feel at finding that an application has been made to your Majesty, in terms so little corresponding with that grateful and affectionate respect which your Majesty is so justly intitled to from all your subjects; and at the same time aspersing and calumniating one of the branches of the legislature, and expressly denying the legality of the present Parliament, and the validity of its proceedings.

To present petitions to the throne has at all times been the undoubted right of the subjects of this realm. The free enjoyment

ment of that right was one of the many bleſſings reſtored by the Revolution, and continued to us in its fulleſt extent under the princes of your Majeſty's illuſtrious houſe: and as we are duly ſenſible of its value and importance, it is with the deepeſt concern that we now ſee the exerciſe of it ſo groſsly perverted by being applied to the purpoſe not of preſerving, but of overturning the conſtitution; and of propagating doctrines which, if generally adopted, muſt be fatal to the peace of the kingdom, and which tend to the ſubverſion of all lawful authority.

Your Majeſty, we acknowledge with gratitude, has ever ſhewn the moſt tender regard to the rights of your people, not only in the exerciſe of your own power, but in your care to preſerve from every degree of infringement or violation the powers intruſted to others. And we beg leave to return your Majeſty our unfeigned thanks for the freſh proof you have now given us of your determination to perſevere in your adherence to the principles of the conſtitution.

Permit us alſo to aſſure your Majeſty, that it is with the higheſt ſatisfaction we ſee your Majeſty expreſſing ſo juſt a confidence in your people. In whatever unjuſtifiable exceſſes ſome few miſguided perſons may in this inſtance have been induced to join, your Majeſty's ſubjects in general are too ſenſible of what they owe both to your Majeſty and to your illuſtrious family, ever to be capable of approaching your Majeſty with any other ſentiments than thoſe of the moſt entire reſpect and affection; and they underſtand too well their own true intereſts to wiſh to looſen the bands of obedience to the laws, and of due ſubordination to lawful authority. We are therefore fully perſuaded that your Majeſty's people, as well as your Parliament, will reject with diſdain every inſidious ſuggeſtion of thoſe ill-deſigning men who are in reality undermining the public liberty, under the ſpecious pretence of zeal for its preſervation; and that your Majeſty's attention to maintain the liberties of your ſubjects inviolated, which you eſteem your chief glory, will upon every occaſion prove the ſure means of ſtrength to your Majeſty, and to ſecure to you that zealous and effectual ſupport which none but a free people can beſtow.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, March 23, 1770.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my thanks for this very loyal and dutiful addreſs. It is with great ſatisfaction that I receive from my Parliament ſo grateful an acknowledgment of my tender regard for the rights of my ſubjects. Be aſſured that I ſhall continue

to

to adhere to the true principles of our excellent constitution, from which I cannot deviate, without justly forfeiting the affections of a free people.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, May 19, 1770.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE season of the year, and the dispatch you have given to the public business, make it proper for me to put an end to this session of Parliament.

The temper with which you have conducted all your proceedings has given me great satisfaction, and I promise myself the happiest effects from the firmness, as well as the moderation, which you have manifested in the very critical circumstances which have attended your late deliberations.

With respect to foreign affairs I have nothing material to communicate to you. I will continue my endeavours to appease, if possible, the troubles which still prevail in some parts of Europe; or, at least, to prevent them from spreading farther. In all events it shall be my first and constant care to watch over the interests, and to preserve, undiminished, the rights of my people.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my thanks for the supplies you have so cheerfully granted for the service of the current year, as well as for your attention to make use of every opportunity of reducing the national debt. The provision you have been able to make in this session for discharging so considerable a sum, without laying any further burden on my subjects, cannot but be highly advantageous to public credit.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I must earnestly recommend to you to exert, in your respective counties, the same zeal and prudence that you have shewn in Parliament for promoting the peace and the welfare of the kingdom. Nothing can be so favourable to the wishes of those who look with jealousy on the strength and prosperity of this country, as the prevalence of animosities and dissensions amongst ourselves. Let it therefore be your care to discountenance every attempt to infuse groundless suspicions and discontent into the minds of your fellow subjects. Make them sensible of my constant attention to promote their happiness; and convince them that nothing can so effectually secure their liberties

liberties as the maintenance of every part of our excellent constitution in its due force and authority.

Then the Speaker of the House of Lords, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the nineteenth day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the nineteenth day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 13, 1770.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WHEN I last met you in Parliament I renewed to you the assurances which I had before given you, that it was my fixed purpose to preserve the general tranquillity, maintaining, at the same time the honour of my crown, together with the just rights and interests of my people; and it was with much satisfaction, that I indulged the hope of being still able to continue to my subjects the enjoyments of peace with honour and security. Since that time, those very considerations which I then promised you that I would never sacrifice, even to the desire of peace, have laid me under an indispensable necessity of preparing for a different situation.

By the act of the governor of Buenos Ayres, in seizing by force one of my possessions, the honour of my crown, and the security of my people's rights, were become deeply affected. Under these circumstances I did not fail to make an immediate demand from the court of Spain of such satisfaction as I had a right to expect for the injury I had received. I directed also the necessary preparations to be made, without loss of time, for enabling me to do myself justice, in case my requisition to the court of Spain should fail of procuring it to me: and these preparations, you may be assured, I shall not think it expedient to discontinue, until I shall have received a proper reparation for the injury, as well as satisfactory proof that other powers are equally sincere with myself in the resolution to preserve the general tranquillity of Europe. In the mean time I have called you together thus early, in order that I may be able to receive from you such advice and assistance, as, in the further progress of this very important business, may happen to become requisite.

With respect to the state of my colonies in North America, although I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that the people, in most of them, have begun to depart from those combinations which were calculated to distress the commerce of this kingdom; yet, in some parts of the colony of the Massachusett's Bay, very unwarrantable practices are still carried on, and my good subjects oppressed by the same lawless violence which has too long prevailed in that province.

I hope and trust, that the precautions which have already been used for securing this country against the visitation of that fatal calamity which has of late appeared in some of the distant parts of Europe, will, with the blessing of God, prove successful: but if, from any alteration of circumstances, it should at any time be found that farther provisions will be wanted, I cannot doubt of your ready concurrence for so salutary à purpose.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I will order the proper estimates for the service of the ensuing year to be laid before you. They must unavoidably, in our present situation, exceed the usual amount. Every unnecessary expense my concern for the ease of my good subjects will ever make me careful to avoid. But I should neither consult their interest, nor their inclination, if I were to decline any expense which the public security, or the maintenance of the national honour, does at any time require.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am sensible how little I need say to you, at this time, to prevail upon you to unite in whatever may best promote the true interest of your country. In all your deliberations, upon points of a domestic nature, let the extension of our commerce, the improvement of the revenue, and the maintenance of order and good government, be always in your view. With respect to foreign measures, there will, I am persuaded, be no other contest among you, than who shall appear most forward in the support of the common cause, in upholding the reputation, and promoting the prosperity of the kingdom. For the attainment of these ends, you shall ever find me ready to exert myself to the utmost. I have no interest, I can have none, distinct from that of my people.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Nov. 14, 1770.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We beg leave to offer your Majesty our very sincere congratulations on the safe and happy delivery of the Queen, and the birth of a princess; and to assure your Majesty of our unfeigned joy at the increase of your domestic happiness; and that we consider every addition to your illustrious House, from which these kingdoms have received the most important benefits, as a farther security to our religious and civil liberties.

We are too sensible of the blessing of peace not to feel the greatest concern at any event which threatens to interrupt its continuance, and defeat your Majesty's wise and gracious purpose to maintain it. But, grateful as we are for this proof of your Majesty's paternal regard to the repose and happiness of your people, we owe your Majesty no less thanks for your anxious vigilance over the honour of your crown, and the interests of your people.

We return your Majesty our most thankful acknowledgments, as well for the immediate demand which your Majesty has been pleased to make from the court of Spain of satisfaction for the injury received, as for the instant preparations that your Majesty made to do yourself justice, in case your requisition should fail of procuring it. And we are exceedingly happy to be assured, that your Majesty will think it expedient to continue prepared to assert the honour of your crown, and the security of the rights of your people, upon an event so deeply affecting both, until the injury shall be properly repaired, and satisfactory proof be given of the sincere resolution of other powers to preserve the general tranquillity of Europe. We, on our part, beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we will not fail to make the utmost efforts in our power to maintain objects so justly dear to us, as the dignity of your Majesty's crown, and the security of the national rights.

We are very happy to be informed, that the people in most of your Majesty's colonies in North America are departing from those combinations which were calculated to distress the commerce of this kingdom; and we hope soon to see an entire end of those unwarrantable practices which have so long oppressed your Majesty's subjects in one of those provinces.

We

We are highly ſenſible of your Majeſty's goodneſs and care in taking ſuch precautions to ſecure this country againſt the viſitation of that fatal calamity which has of late appeared in ſome of the diſtant parts of Europe; and we ſhall always be ready to concur in any meaſures that ſhall be found neceſſary to the ſupport of your Majeſty's endeavours for ſo ſalutary a purpoſe.

We have the moſt grateful ſenſe of your Majeſty's favourable opinion of our conſtant endeavours to promote the true intereſt of this country. We will, in all our deliberations upon points of a domeſtic nature, exert ourſelves for the extenſion of our commerce, the improvement of the revenue, and the maintenance of order and government: and we flatter ourſelves, that your Majeſty will not be diſappointed in the gracious expectations you have formed of our zeal in the ſupport of your Majeſty's crown, and the reputation and proſperity of your kingdoms.

His Majeſty's Anſwer, November 14, 1770.

My Lords,

IT gives me great ſatisfaction to find that you entertain ſo juſt a ſenſe of the importance of peace, while that deſirable object can be maintained conſiſtently with the honour of my crown, and the rights of my people. You may depend upon my beſt endeavours to preſerve that ineſtimable bleſſing, ſo long as it is compatible with objects ſtill more eſſential to the happineſs and proſperity of my kingdoms.

The affectionate part you take in the happy delivery of the Queen, and the increaſe of my family, gives me much pleaſure.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, May 8, 1771.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AS the ſtate of the public buſineſs no longer requires your attendance, I think it right, at this ſeaſon of the year, to put an end to the preſent ſeſſion of Parliament.

The ſatisfaction I have obtained from his Catholic Majeſty for the injury I had received, together with the proofs which the courts of France and Spain have given me, by laying aſide their armaments, of their ſincere diſpoſition to preſerve the general tranquillity of Europe, have enabled me to reduce my forces by ſea and land. The zeal with which you have exerted yourſelves, upon the apprehenſion of a rupture with Spain, muſt

must convince the world of your affectionate attachment to me, and of your constant regard for the true interests of your country. On that support I shall always rely for the defence of my honour, and for the security of the rights of my people.

With regard to the troubles which still agitate some parts of the continent, my endeavours have never been wanting to bring them to an end; and in those endeavours you may be assured I shall persevere.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

It was with real concern that I found myself called upon by the situation of public affairs, to ask of my faithful Commons more than ordinary supplies for the service of the current year; and I cannot sufficiently thank you for the unanimity, cheerfulness, and public spirit with which they have been granted.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

While we acknowledge the goodness of divine Providence in preserving us from those calamities with which some parts of Europe have been afflicted, let me exhort you to employ your best endeavours, in your several stations and countries, to render the national happiness complete, by discouraging and suppressing all groundless suspicions and domestic disturbances. I have no other object, and I can have no other interest, than to reign in the hearts of a free and happy people: and it is my earnest wish, that my subjects may not be prevented, by any mistakes or animosities amongst themselves, from enjoying, in the fullest extent, the blessings of a mild and legal government. The support of our excellent constitution is our common duty and interest: by that standard I would wish my people to try all public principles and professions; and to look upon those as their most dangerous enemies, who, under any pretence whatsoever, would persuade them to violate those laws, and undermine that authority which the constitution has provided for the purpose of preserving the general liberty and happiness.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the twenty-third day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the twenty-third day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Jan. 21, 1772.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT gives me much satisfaction that nothing in the situation of our affairs, either foreign or domestic, has obliged me to require your attendance earlier than might have been consistent with your private convenience; and that, now you are met together, you will find yourselves at liberty to give your whole attention to the establishment of wise and useful regulations of law, and to the extension of our commercial advantages.

The performance of the engagement of the King of Spain in the restitution of Port Egmont and Falkland's Island, and the repeated assurances I have received of the pacific disposition of that court, as well as of other powers, promise to my subjects the continuance of peace; and we may, with the greater confidence, hope, that we shall not be disturbed in the enjoyment of this blessing, as there is no reason to apprehend that we shall become involved in the troubles which still unhappily prevail in one part of Europe.

The danger of the farther spreading of the infectious sickness in Europe is, I trust, very much abated; but I must recommend it to you, not to suffer our happiness in having been hitherto preserved from so dreadful a calamity, to lessen your vigilance in the use of every reasonable precaution for our safety.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the estimates for the service of the current year to be laid before you. I make no doubt but you will see the propriety of maintaining a respectable establishment of my naval forces. I am pleased, however, to find, that I shall be under no necessity of asking of you at this time any extraordinary aid.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The concerns of this country are so various and extensive as to require the most vigilant and active attention; and some of them, as well from remoteness of place as from other circumstances, are so peculiarly liable to abuses and exposed to danger, that the interposition of the legislature for their protection may become necessary. If in any such instances, either for supplying defects or remedying abuses, you shall find it requisite to provide any new laws, you may depend upon my ready concurrence in whatever may best contribute to the attainment of those salutary ends.

Address

Address to his Majesty, by the House of Lords, Jan. 22, 1772.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us, Sir, to offer your Majesty our most dutiful congratulations on the happy event of the increase of your royal family, by the birth of another prince, and to assure your Majesty, that every addition to your Majesty's domestic happiness must always afford the highest satisfaction to your faithful subjects.

We beg leave to express to your Majesty our most grateful sense of your Majesty's regard for our private convenience in not commanding us to an earlier attendance, and to declare to your Majesty our determination to give our most diligent attention to the promotion of the domestic interests of these kingdoms, and the extension of our commercial advantages, by the establishment of useful regulations of law.

We return your Majesty our humble thanks for your goodness and condescension, in acquainting us from the throne with the restitution of Port Egmont and Falkland's Island, on the part of the King of Spain, and with the assurances your Majesty has received of the pacific disposition of foreign powers. We are made happy by learning, that your Majesty has no reason to apprehend that the peace which we at present enjoy will be disturbed by our being anywise involved in the calamities of war, which still unhappily prevail in one part of Europe.

Your Majesty's paternal care, in recommending to us a due vigilance in the use of every precaution to preserve this country from that most dreadful contagion, from which, under the divine Providence, it has been hitherto our happiness to remain free, calls for our sincerest acknowledgments, and commands our utmost attention.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that our most diligent endeavours shall be employed to frame such laws, as shall, in our judgment, tend to supply the defects and remedy the abuses which may appear to have been introduced in any branch of the various and extensive concerns of this country: and we look upon your Majesty's gracious assurance of your ready concurrence in whatever may best contribute to the attainment of

 those

those salutary ends, as a fresh proof of that desire which has constantly been shewn by your Majesty to promote the welfare of your people.

His Majesty's Answer, January 22, 1772.

My L[illegible]

I THANK you for this [illegible] and dutiful address. I receive with pleasure [illegible] congratulations on the [illegible] of my family, and the assurances of the attention you will give to those objects which I have recommended to you for the public good. [illegible] more acceptable to me than the sense you express of my desire to promote the welfare of my people.

Address to [illegible] Majesty by the House of Commons, Jan. 23, 17[illegible].

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

It is with [illegible] joy we beg leave to offer to your Majesty our [illegible] on the birth of another [illegible] the [illegible] recovery of the Queen, who is still [illegible] every new pledge of security for the happiness we enjoy under your Majesty's auspicious government, [illegible] virtues.

We return your Majesty our warmest thanks for [illegible] communication of the assurances your Majesty has received from the King of Spain, as well as from other powers of their [illegible] to maintain the public tranquillity; and we cannot but [illegible] the [illegible] satisfaction at the fair prospect which [illegible], and the [illegible] of his Catholic Majesty's [illegible], by the restitution of Port Egmont and Falkland [illegible], [illegible] your Majesty's subjects of the continuance of peace, [illegible] the same time we have the greatest confidence that [illegible] derived to this nation from the moderation and [illegible] Majesty's conduct, will continue to preserve your Majesty's dominions from the calamities of war, which still unhappily prevail in the distant parts of Europe.

We acknowledge with gratitude your Majesty's paternal care in the precautions your Majesty has taken to preserve this kingdom from the [illegible] with which we have of late been alarmed, and though we have the satisfaction to find that,

that, by the bleſſing of Providence, the danger of its ſpreading is now diminiſhed, we will not be negligent on our part in taking ſuch meaſures as may from time to time appear beſt calculated to ſecure this nation from the viſitation of ſo dreadful an evil.

Your Majeſty's faithful Commons will chearfully grant to your Majeſty ſuch ſupplies as ſhall be found neceſſary for the ſervice of the current year, and we will be careful to make ſufficient proviſion for the eſtabliſhment of a reſpectable naval force, on which, we are truly ſenſible, the ſecurity as well as the importance of this nation muſt ever principally depend.

We aſſure your Majeſty, that we will not fail, during this ſeaſon of tranquillity, to employ our time in making ſuch proviſions as may be found neceſſary for the improvement of our laws, and the extenſion of our commerce; and your Majeſty may rely on our vigilant and active attention to thoſe important concerns recommended to us by your Majeſty; and wherever it ſhall be found that with reſpect to any of theſe, either from the remoteneſs of their ſituation from the ſeat of government, or from other circumſtances, ſuch abuſes prevail as expoſe them to danger, we ſhall think it our duty to endeavour, by every regulation in our power, to remedy thoſe evils, which may in their conſequences ſo eſſentially affect the intereſt and honour of this country.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Commons, Feb. 10, 1772.

Nem. con.

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty to expreſs our juſt and deep concern at the great loſs which his Majeſty has ſuſtained by the death of the Princeſs Dowager of *Wales*, and to condole with his Majeſty on this melancholy occaſion; and to aſſure his Majeſty that his faithful Commons moſt ſincerely intereſt themſelves in every event that ſo nearly affects him, and will, as far as in them lies, with the warmeſt gratitude, and moſt affectionate attachment to his royal perſon, endeavour to alleviate every care that may diſturb his domeſtic happineſs.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer, Feb. 19, 1772.

THAT he returns his hearty thanks to this House for their address.

That his Ma[illegible] sensibly touched by the very kind and affectionate [illegible] House takes in his concern for the great loss he has suffered in his family, and that his Majesty receives much comfort [illegible] from this fresh and convincing proof of the [illegible] and attachment of his faithful Commons.

M[illegible] to the House of [illegible],
[illegible], 177[illegible].

George R.

HIS Majesty [illegible] to his own [illegible] of his people [illegible] [illegible] the laws [illegible] the Crown [illegible] with the approbation [illegible] successor, [illegible] declared.

His Majesty's [illegible] Speech, June 9, 1772.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT put an end to this session of Parliament without expressing the satisfaction I have felt in observing the temper, and the prudence, which have [illegible] all your deliberations during the [illegible] of it; and [illegible] you my particular thanks for [illegible] you have given of your affectionate attachment [illegible], in the addition [illegible] you have provided [illegible] and honour of my [illegible].

I [illegible] acquaint you, that the disposition of the powers of Europe give me the strongest reason to believe,

lieve,

lieve, that this nation will not be disturbed in the enjoyment of the blessings of peace.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you heartily for the supplies which you have granted with so much cheerfulness and dispatch, and for the ample provision you have made for every branch of the public service: and I see with pleasure and approbation, that you have at the same time been able, by a proper disposition of the public money, to make a further progress in reducing the national debt.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I make no doubt but that you will carry into your respective counties the same principles, and the same zeal for the public good, which I have experienced from you in Parliament; and that you will continue to exert your best endeavours to cultivate and improve a spirit of harmony and confidence amongst all ranks of my faithful subjects: let it be your constant care to convince them, that without a due reverence for the laws, and a cheerful obedience to just authority, neither their civil nor religious rights and liberties can be enjoyed in comfort or security, and to assure them, that I consider their interests as inseparably connected with my own, and that I am, and have ever been, persuaded that the prosperity and glory of my reign must depend on my possessing the affection, and maintaining the happiness of my people.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday the 11th day of August next, to be then here held, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday the 11th day of August next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 26, 1772.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I SHOULD most willingly have consulted your private convenience by allowing you a longer recess from business, if I had not thought that some very important parts of the public service required the immediate attention of Parliament.

It is impossible that I can ever look with indifference upon whatever concerns either the commerce and revenue of the

P 4 kingdom

kingdom at large, or the private rights and interests of considerable numbers among my people; neither can I be insensible how materially every one of these great objects must be interested in the maintenance of the credit and prosperity of the East India Company. When, therefore, I received information of the difficulties in which that Company appear to be involved, I determined to give you an early opportunity of informing yourselves fully of the true state of their affairs; and of making such provisions for the common benefit and security of all the various interests concerned, as you shall find best adapted to the exigencies of the case.

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that there is reason to hope, that the war, which has so long unhappily prevailed in one part of Europe, is now drawing to a conclusion: and although there was no probability of our being involved therein, yet the discontinuance of those troubles will afford a fairer prospect of the duration of peace; which, I trust, the alterations which have happened in Europe will not, in their consequences, affect.

I continue to receive, from foreign powers, the strongest assurances of their pacific dispositions towards this country. and it shall be my constant endeavour to preserve the general tranquillity, as far as is consistent with the honour of my crown, and the interests of my people.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

It gives me much satisfaction, that the continuance of peace has enabled me to proceed in the reduction of the establishment of my naval forces; but you will, I am confident, agree with me, that a considerable strength at sea must be ever necessary for preserving the reputation and power of my kingdoms.

The proper estimates for the ensuing year shall be laid before you; and whatever supplies you may grant, shall on my part be managed with the strictest œconomy, and applied with the utmost fidelity.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I cannot but feel the most real concern, that the produce of the late harvest has not given us the relief which we had hoped for in respect to the dearness of corn. As far as human wisdom can provide for alleviating the distresses of the poor, I am persuaded your attention will not be wanting: and you cannot gratify me more, than by calling upon me for my concurrence in whatever may contribute to the true welfare and happiness of all my people.

Addrefs by the Houfe of Lords to his Majefty, Nov. 26, 1772.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Lords fpiritual and temporal, in Parliament affembled, return our humble and moft unfeigned thanks to your Majefty for your moft gracious fpeech from the throne.

We gratefully acknowledge your Majefty's goodnefs in the gracious affurances we have received, that your Majefty would have confulted our private convenience, if fome very interefting public concerns had not required the early meeting of Parliament.

Your Majefty may be affured that we will apply ourfelves diligently to whatever may concern the commerce or revenue of the kingdom, or the rights and interefts of any part of your Majefty's fubjects: that we are thoroughly convinced the affairs of the Eaft India Company deferve and require our moft ferious confideration: and that we will not neglect an object of fuch national importance.

Permit us, Sir, to exprefs the happinefs we feel at having reafon to hope, from the communication your Majefty has been pleafed to make to us, that the war, which has fo long prevailed in one part of Europe, is drawing to a conclufion. A happinefs that is greatly increafed, by the additional profpect it affords of the duration of peace; which, we truft, the alterations that have happened in Europe will not, in their confequences, affect: being ever firmly perfuaded, that your Majefty's uniform endeavour to preferve the general tranquillity will be directed on all occafions, by a due regard to the honour of your crown, and the interefts of your people.

With hearts deeply affected, we learn that the produce of the late harveft has not given the relief fo effentially neceffary to the poorer fort of your Majefty's fubjects; and, confcious that we can do no act fo acceptable to your Majefty, as exerting our utmoft efforts to contribute to the eafe and comfort of all your people, we beg leave to affure your Majefty, that this object, which your paternal care and tendernefs have fo particularly pointed out, fhall engage our utmoft attention.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this dutiful and affectionate address.

The zeal you express in it for the honour of my crown, and the rights and interests of my people, gives me the highest satisfaction.

I firmly rely that all your deliberations will tend to such measures as shall be most conducive to the great objects you have before you. Among these, I am sure, you will not forget to provide for the distresses of the poor, as far as it is in the power of human wisdom to alleviate them.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 26, 1772.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We acknowledge, with the warmest gratitude, your Majesty's great goodness, in your constant attention to whatever concerns either the commerce and revenue of your kingdom at large, or the private rights and interests of considerable numbers among your people. And we return our most dutiful thanks to your Majesty, for having given us an early opportunity of informing ourselves fully of the true state of the affairs of the East India Company. And we assure your Majesty, that, impressed with a due sense of the great importance of the business, we will, without delay, proceed to the consideration of it, and endeavour to provide, in the most effectual manner that the nature of the case will admit, for the common benefit and security of all the great and weighty interests recommended to our care by your Majesty.

Your faithful Commons cannot but rejoice to hear that your Majesty has reason to hope that the war, which has so long unhappily prevailed in one part of Europe, is now drawing to a conclusion; and that the favourable prospect of the duration of peace which the probability of this event affords us, will not be affected by the alterations which have lately happened: and we feel the highest satisfaction at the assurances which your Majesty continues to receive from foreign powers, of their

their pacific dispositions towards this country; and at the same time we most gratefully acknowledge your Majesty's gracious declaration, that it will be your constant endeavour to preserve the general tranquillity, as far as is consistent with the honour of your crown, and the interests of your people.

Your Majesty may be assured, that your faithful Commons will cheerfully grant such supplies as the services of the ensuing year shall require: and although we are convinced, that it must ever be for the interest and reputation of this country to have a considerable strength at sea, yet we learn with much satisfaction, that your Majesty has been enabled, during the course of this year, to proceed in the reduction of your naval establishment.

Permit us to offer to your Majesty our most humble and unfeigned thanks for the paternal and affectionate concern which your Majesty has expressed for the distresses which the poor continue to suffer from the dearness of corn; and we assure your Majesty, that a diligent attention shall not be wanting on our part to consider on the most proper means for preventing the increase of the evil; and for alleviating the present distresses, as far as they are in their nature capable of relief; being persuaded that we cannot render any service more acceptable to your Majesty, than by contributing to the happiness of all your people.

His Majesty's Answer, Nov. 26, 1772.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful address.

The assurances you give me, of your resolution to enter into the immediate consideration of the important affairs which I have recommended to you, afford me great satisfaction; and I have the fullest confidence that you will endeavour, as far as lies in [illegible] power, to alleviate the distresses of my people, who are the [illegible]stant objects of my care and affection.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 1, 1773.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT close this session without assuring you, that I have observed, with much satisfaction, the zeal, assiduity, and perseverance, with which you have applied yourselves to the

the very important business which, at the meeting of Parliament, I recommended to your particular attention: and I hope and trust, that the laws which have been the result of your deliberations, will be found to answer the salutary purposes for which they were intended.

The continuance of the war between Russia and the Porte, with both of whom I am closely connected in friendship, although under no engagement to either, gives me great concern. But from the pacific dispositions of other powers, I have reason to hope that those troubles will extend no further. I shall persevere in my earnest endeavours to preserve the general tranquillity of Europe, at the same time it shall be the constant object of my care to be sufficiently prepared against any event which may affect the honour, safety, or interest of my kingdoms.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my hearty thanks, for the supplies which you have granted me with so much cheerfulness: and I see with pleasure, that, notwithstanding the ample provision which you have made for every branch of the public service, and the effectual relief and support which you have afforded to the East India Company, you have been able to make some progress in reducing the national debt.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The experience I have had of your attention to the public good, and of your attachment to me, convinces me, that you will, in your several stations, use your utmost endeavours to assist me in promoting the happiness of my people. I have no other object but their welfare; and no other view, but to employ the powers with which I am intrusted in maintaining the credit, reputation, and prosperity of my kingdoms.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the seventh day of September next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the seventh day of September next.

His

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, January 13, 1774.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE unuſual length of the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament made me deſirous of giving you as long a receſs as the public ſervice would admit. I have, therefore, been glad to find myſelf under no neceſſity of calling you from your reſpective counties at an earlier ſeaſon; and I doubt not but you are now met together, in the beſt diſpoſition, for applying yourſelves to the diſpatch of public buſineſs.

You will, I am perſuaded, agree with me in regretting, that the peace, ſo long expected and ſo very deſirable, is not yet effected between Ruſſia and the Porte; but it is with real ſatisfaction I can repeat, that other foreign powers continue ſtill to have the ſame pacific diſpoſitions with myſelf. I can have no other wiſh than to ſee the general tranquillity reſtored: for the eſtabliſhment and ſubſequent preſervation of which, no endeavours of mine, conſiſtent with the honour of my crown, and intereſts of my people, ſhall ever be wanting.

In this ſtate of foreign affairs, you will have full leiſure to attend to the improvement of our internal and domeſtic ſituation; and to the proſecution of meaſures more immediately reſpecting the preſervation and advancement of the revenue and commerce of the kingdom. Among the objects which, in this view, will come under your conſideration, none can better deſerve your attention than the ſtate of the gold coin; which I muſt recommend to you in a more particular manner, as well on account of its very high importance, as of the peculiar advantage which the preſent time affords, for executing with ſucceſs ſuch meaſures as you may find it expedient to adopt with reſpect to this great national concern.

The degree of diminution which that coin had actually ſuffered, and the very rapid progreſs which the miſchief was daily making, were truly alarming. It is with much ſatisfaction that I have ſeen the evil, in a great meaſure, checked by the regulations made in the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament. I truſt, however, that you will not ſtop here, nor think that you have diſcharged your duty, either to your country or your fellow-ſubjects, without uſing your beſt endeavours for putting the gold coin upon ſuch a footing, as may not only completely remove the preſent grievance, but render the credit and commerce of the kingdom ſufficiently ſecure from being again expoſed to the like danger.

Gentlemen of the Houfe of Commons,

I have ordered the proper eftimates for the current year to be laid before you; and rely on your readinefs to grant me fuch fupplies as fhall be found requifite in the prefent fituation of affairs.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The experience I have had of your paft conduct leaves me no room to doubt either of your zeal or prudence, in your endeavours to promote the welfare of your country. You will not fuffer any parts of the public fervice to efcape your attention; but, various and extenfive as thofe are, you will be careful to felect, for your immediate deliberation, fuch of them as fhall appear to be moft important: and you can propofe no meafures, that will ferve either to fecure or advance the happinefs and profperity of my people, in which you may not always depend on my moft hearty concurrence.

Addrefs by the Houfe of Lords to his Majefty, Jan. 13, 1774

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Lords fpiritual and temporal, in Parliament affembled, return your Majefty our humble thanks for your moft gracious fpeech from the throne.

We are truly fenfible of your Majefty's goodnefs in having granted us as long a recefs from bufinefs as the public fervice would admit.

We cannot but exprefs our concern, that the peace fo long expected, and fo very defirable, is not yet concluded between Ruffia and the Porte. It gives us, however, great fatisfaction to hear of the continuance of the pacific difpofitions of other foreign powers: and we humbly beg leave to return your Majefty our fincereft thanks for your Majefty's moft gracious declaration, that no endeavours fhall be wanting on your part, confiftent with the honour of your crown, and the interefts of your people, towards the eftablifhment and fubfequent prefervation of public tranquillity.

Your Majefty may be affured that we entertain the jufteft fenfe of your paternal care in recommending to your Parliament to make ufe of this feafon of tranquillity for improving the commerce and revenue of the kingdom; and in pointing out to us particularly the neceffity and great national advan-

tage of putting the gold coin on such a footing, as may completely remove the present grievance, and secure the credit and commerce of the kingdom from being again exposed to the like danger. The wisdom and goodness of your Majesty on this occasion appear in so conspicuous a light as cannot fail to fill our minds with the deepest gratitude, and raise in us the strongest desire of employing our utmost efforts for such salutary purposes.

Animated with every sentiment of duty to your Majesty, and zeal for the public welfare, we will take under our most serious consideration, the important objects to which your Majesty has directed our attention.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this loyal address. Nothing can give me greater satisfaction than these assurances of your duty [illegible]

You may always depend upon my hearty concurrence in every measure that contributes to the improvement of commerce, and the true interest and prosperity of my people.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, Jan. 13, 1774.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our most humble thanks for your Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us, Sir, to assure your Majesty, that we sincerely regret that the peace so long expected, and so much desired, is not yet effected between Russia and the Porte; but, at the same time, we beg leave to express the satisfaction we feel, in learning that other foreign powers continue still to have the same pacific dispositions with your Majesty: we acknowledge, with the utmost gratitude, the assurance which your Majesty has been pleased to repeat to us, that you have no other wish than to see the general tranquillity restored and preserved, consistently with the honour of your crown, and the interests of your people; and we consider this gracious declaration of your Majesty as a fresh instance of your Majesty's paternal care for the welfare of your subjects, and of your generous concern for the happiness of mankind.

We

We are truly ſenſible that it is our duty, as it ſhall be our care, to employ the leiſure which the ſtate of foreign affairs allows us, in attending to our internal and domeſtic ſituation: and we cannot but acknowledge your Majeſty's great wiſdom, in recommending and pointing out to our ſerious conſideration the ſtate of the gold coin of this kingdom, as well on account of its very extenſive importance, as of the peculiar advantages which the preſent time affords, for conducting and executing with ſucceſs any meaſures touching this great national object: we ſaw, with the deepeſt concern, the difficulties and diſtreſs in which the nation was on the point of being involved, by the very alarming degree of diminution which this coin has actually ſuffered, before the evil was checked by the regulations made in the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament; and we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that, impreſſed with a juſt ſenſe of our duty to our country and our fellow-ſubjects, we will exert our beſt endeavours to accompliſh the great work of putting the gold coin upon ſuch a footing as may not only completely remove the preſent grievance, but, as far as the nature of the caſe will admit, render the credit and commerce of the kingdom ſecure from being again expoſed to the like danger.

Your faithful Commons will, with the utmoſt cheerfulneſs, grant to your Majeſty ſuch ſupplies as ſhall be found neceſſary in the preſent ſituation of affairs: and your Majeſty may be aſſured, that, animated by your recommendation, and excited by your example, we will apply ourſelves with the utmoſt zeal and diligence to promote the welfare of our country; and that we will not fail to direct our attention to ſuch parts of the public ſervice as appear to us moſt important; having a perfect confidence that, whatever meaſures we may propoſe, that will ſerve either to ſecure or advance the happineſs and proſperity of your people, will always meet with your Majeſty's gracious approbation and concurrence.



His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful addreſs. I ſee, with the higheſt ſatisfaction, the continuance of your affection to me, and of your zeal for the public ſervice. You may be aſſured that it is the invariable object and the conſtant care of my life to promote the happineſs, and to deſerve the confidence, of my people.

Meſſage

Message from his Majesty, March 7, 1774.

HIS Majesty, upon information of the unwarrantable practices which have been lately concerted and carried on in North America, and particularly of the violent and outrageous proceedings at the town and port of Boston, in the province of Massachusett's Bay, with a view to obstructing the commerce of this kingdom, and upon grounds and pretences immediately subversive of the constitution thereof, has thought fit to lay the whole matter before his two Houses of Parliament, fully confiding as well in their zeal for the maintenance of his Majesty's authority, as in their attachment to the common interest and welfare of all his dominions, that they will not only enable his Majesty effectually to take such measures as may be most likely to put an immediate stop to the present disorders, but will also take into their most serious consideration what further regulations and permanent provisions may be necessary to be established, for better securing the execution of the laws, and the just dependence of the colonies upon the crown and parliament of Great Britain.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 22, 1774.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE observed with the utmost satisfaction, the many eminent proofs you have given of your zealous and prudent attention to the public service, during the course of this very interesting session of Parliament.

The necessity of providing some effectual remedy for the great and manifold mischiefs, both public and private, arising from the impaired state of the gold coin, induced me, at the opening of the session, to recommend that important object to your consideration: in the several measures you have taken for the redress of those evils, you have sufficiently manifested as well your regard to the general credit and commercial interests of the kingdom, as to the immediate ease and accommodation of my people

The very peculiar circumstances of embarrassment in which the province of Quebec was involved, had rendered the proper adjustment and regulations of the government thereof, a matter of no small difficulty. The bill which you prepared for that purpose, and to which I have now given my assent, is founded on the clearest principles of justice and humanity; and

will, I doubt not, have the beſt effects in quieting the minds, and promoting the happineſs of my Canadian ſubjects.

I have long ſeen, with concern, a dangerous ſpirit of reſiſtance to my government, and to the execution of the laws, prevailing in the province of Maſſachuſett's Bay, in New England. It proceeded at length to ſuch an extremity, as to render your immediate interpoſition indiſpenſably neceſſary; and you have accordingly made proviſion, as well for the ſuppreſſion of the preſent diſorders, as for the prevention of the like in future. The temper and firmneſs with which you have conducted yourſelves in this important buſineſs, and the general concurrence with which the reſolution of maintaining the authority of the laws in every part of my dominions hath been adopted and ſupported, cannot fail of giving the greateſt weight to the meaſures which have been the reſult of your deliberations. Nothing that depends on me ſhall be wanting to render them effectual. It is my moſt anxious deſire to ſee my deluded ſubjects, in that part of the world, returning to a ſenſe of their duty, acquieſcing in that juſt ſubordination to the authority, and maintaining that due regard to the commercial intereſt of this country, which muſt ever be inſeparably connected with their own real proſperity and advantage.

Nothing material has happened, ſince your meeting, with reſpect to the war between Ruſſia and the Porte; and it is with pleaſure I can inform you, that the very friendly aſſurances which I continue to receive from the neighbouring powers, give me the ſtrongeſt reaſon to believe that they have the ſame good diſpoſitions as myſelf, to preſerve the tranquillity of the reſt of Europe.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I thank you for the ſupplies which you have ſo cheerfully given; and I ſee with great ſatisfaction, that, notwithſtanding the ample grants you have made for the ſeveral eſtabliſhments, and the compenſation which has been ſo properly provided for the holders of the deficient gold coin, you have been able to to make a further progreſs in the reduction of the national debt.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing to recommend to you, but that you would carry into your reſpective counties the ſame affectionate attachment to my perſon and government, and the ſame zeal for the maintenance of the public welfare, which have diſtinguiſhed all your proceedings in this ſeſſion of Parliament.

Then

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this arlia-ment be prorogued to Thurſday, the fourth day of Auguſt next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the fourth day of Auguſt next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, Nov. 30, 1774.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT gives me much concern, that I am obliged, at the opening of this Parliament, to inform you, that a moſt daring ſpirit of reſiſtance and diſobedience to the law ſtill unhappily prevails in the province of the Maſſachuſett's Bay, and has in divers parts of it broke forth in freſh violences of a very criminal nature. Theſe proceedings have been countenanced and encouraged in other of my colonies, and unwarrantable attempts have been made to obſtruct the commerce of this kingdom by unlawful combinations. I have taken ſuch meaſures, and given ſuch orders, as I judged moſt proper and effectual for carrying into execution the laws which were paſſed in the laſt ſeſſion of the late Parliament, for the protection and ſecurity of the commerce of my ſubjects and for the reſtoring and preſerving peace, order, and good government, in the province of Maſſachuſett's Bay; and you may depend upon my firm and ſtedfaſt reſolution to withſtand every attempt to weaken or impair the ſupreme authority of this legiſlature over all the dominions of my crown, the maintenance of which I conſider as eſſential to the dignity, the ſafety, and the welfare of the Britiſh empire; aſſuring myſelf, that, while I act upon theſe principles, I ſhall never fail to receive your aſſiſtance and ſupport.

I have the greateſt ſatisfaction in being able to inform you, that a treaty of peace is concluded between Ruſſia and the Porte. By this happy event the troubles which have ſo long prevailed in one part of Europe are compoſed, and the general tranquillity rendered complete. It ſhall be my conſtant aim and endeavour to prevent the breaking out of freſh diſturbances;

and I cannot but flatter myſelf I ſhall ſucceed, as I continue to receive the ſtrongeſt aſſurances from other powers of their being equally diſpoſed to preſerve the peace.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the proper eſtimates for the ſervice of the enſuing year to be laid before you; and I doubt not but that, in this Houſe of Commons, I ſhall meet with the ſame affectionate confidence, and the ſame proofs of zeal and attachment to my perſon and government, which I have always, during the courſe of my reign, received from my faithful Commons.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Let me particularly recommend to you, at this time, to proceed with temper in your deliberations, and with unanimity in your reſolutions. Let my people, in every part of my dominions, be taught by your example, to have a due reverence for the laws, and a juſt ſenſe of the bleſſings of our excellent conſtitution. They may be aſſured that, on my part, I have nothing ſo much at heart as the real proſperity and laſting happineſs of all my ſubjects.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, Nov. 30, 1774.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We think it our indiſpenſable duty to declare, on this occaſion, our abhorrence and deteſtation of the daring ſpirit of reſiſtance and diſobedience to the laws, which ſo ſtrongly prevails in the province of Maſſachuſett's Bay, and of the unwarrantable attempts in that and other of your Majeſty's provinces in America, to obſtruct, by unlawful combinations, the trade of this kingdom.

We thankfully acknowledge, at the ſame time, the communication it has pleaſed your Majeſty to make to us of your having taken ſuch meaſures, and given ſuch orders, as your Majeſty judged the moſt proper and effectual for the protection and ſecurity of the commerce of your Majeſty's ſubjects, and for the carrying into execution the laws which were paſ-

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fed in the laſt ſeſſion of the late Parliament, relative to the province of Maſſachuſett's Bay; and in the utmoſt reliance on your Majeſty's firm and ſtedfaſt reſolution to continue to ſupport the ſupreme authority of the legiſlature over all the dominions of your crown, your Majeſty may be aſſured that we will cheerfully co-operate in all ſuch meaſures as ſhall be neceſſary to maintain the dignity, the ſafety, and the welfare of the Britiſh empire.

As this nation cannot be unconcerned in the common intereſts of Europe, it is with the greateſt ſatisfaction we are acquainted with the concluſion of the peace between Ruſſia and the Porte. We have the fulleſt confidence in your Majeſty's endeavours to prevent, as far as poſſible, the breaking out of freſh diſturbances: and from the aſſurances given to your Majeſty by other powers, we have the pleaſing expectation that nothing is likely to happen that may interrupt the preſent happy tranquillity in Europe.

We beg leave humbly to aſſure your Majeſty that it will be no leſs our duty than our inclination to proceed with temper and unanimity in our deliberations and reſolutions, and to inculcate, by our example, a due reverence to the laws, and a juſt ſenſe of the excellency of our conſtitution. Impreſſed with theſe ſentiments, and with the deepeſt gratitude for the many bleſſings we have enjoyed during the courſe of your Majeſty's reign, it will be our principal care to teſtify, with unaffected zeal, at this conjuncture, our inviolable fidelity to your Majeſty, and our ſerious attention to the public welfare.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for your affectionate aſſurances of duty and loyalty. The zeal you expreſs for the ſupport of the ſupreme authority of the legiſlature, which I ſhall conſtantly maintain, is very agreeable to me, and your reſolution to proceed with temper and unanimity in your deliberations, gives me the greater ſatisfaction, as it correſponds with the hearty concern I ſhall ever have for the true intereſts of all my people.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 30, 1774.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us to assure your Majesty, that we receive with the highest sense of your Majesty's goodness the early information which you have been pleased to give us, of the state of the province of Massachusett's Bay.

We feel the most sincere concern, that a spirit of disobedience and resistance to the law should still unhappily prevail in that province, and that it has broke forth in fresh violences of a most criminal nature: and we cannot but lament that such proceedings should have been countenanced and encouraged in any other of your Majesty's colonies, and that any of your subjects should have been so far deluded and misled, as to make rash and unwarrantable attempts to obstruct the commerce of your Majesty's kingdoms by unlawful combinations.

We beg leave to present our most dutiful thanks to your Majesty for having taken such measures as your Majesty judged most proper and effectual, for carrying into execution the laws which were passed in the last session of the late Parliament, for the protection and security of the commerce of your Majesty's subjects, and for restoring and preserving peace, order, and good government in the province of Massachusett's Bay.

Your faithful Commons, animated by your Majesty's gracious assurances, will use every means in their power to assist your Majesty in maintaining entire and inviolate the supreme authority of this legislature over all the dominions of your crown; being truly sensible that we should betray the trust reposed in us, and be wanting in every duty which we owe to your Majesty, and to our fellow-subjects, if we failed to give our most zealous support to those great constitutional principles which govern your Majesty's conduct in this important business, and which are so essential to the dignity, safety, and welfare of the British empire.

We learn, with great satisfaction, that a treaty of peace is concluded between Russia and the Porte, and that, by this happy event, the general tranquillity is rendered complete: and we entertain a well-grounded hope that your Majesty's constant

constant endeavours to prevent the breaking out of fresh disturbances will be attended with success, as your Majesty continues to receive the strongest assurances from other powers of their being equally disposed to preserve the peace.

We assure your Majesty, that we will, with the utmost cheerfulness, grant to your Majesty every necessary supply; and that we consider ourselves bound by gratitude, as well as duty, to give every proof of the most affectionate attachment to a prince, who, during the whole course of his reign, has made the happiness of his people the object of all his views, and the rule of all his actions.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my particular thanks for this very loyal and dutiful address. I receive with the highest satisfaction and approbation your assurances of assistance and support, in maintaining the supreme authority of the legislature over all the dominions of my crown. It shall be my care to justify by my conduct the confidence you so affectionately express, and to shew that I have no interests separate from those of my people.

The humble Address of the Archbishop, the Bishops and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury in Convocation assembled, presented to his Majesty, January 23, 1775.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the archbishop, bishops, and clergy, of the province of Canterbury in convocation assembled, most gladly embrace the opportunity now afforded us of renewing in this our collective capacity, our warmest and sincerest professions of allegiance, fidelity, and affection to your Majesty's most sacred person and government.

We humbly beg leave to assure your Majesty that we are penetrated with the deepest sense of the happiness we enjoy under your mild and auspicious reign. The proofs your Majesty has given of your truly parental care and tenderness for your subjects are too many to be enumerated. But as ministers of the gospel of peace, we hold ourselves more especially

bound to expreſs our ſincereſt thanks to your Majeſty for your unwearied and ſucceſsful endeavours, during a long courſe of years, to prevent the needleſs effuſion of Chriſtian blood; and, in perfect conſiſtency with the dignity of your crown, and the true intereſts of your kingdom, to eſtabliſh peace and tranquillity in every part of Europe; a conduct no leſs conſonant to the maxims of ſound policy, than to the dictates of humanity, and the benevolent temper of our moſt holy religion.

Thoſe gracious declarations your Majeſty has ſo frequently made and ſo religiouſly obſerved, that you will ſupport the church of England as it is now by law eſtabliſhed, demand from us our moſt grateful acknowledgments, and leave us no room to doubt the continuance of the ſame royal favour and protection which we have hitherto experienced. Permit us, Sir, on this occaſion, in all humility to ſay, that the eccleſiaſtical part of our conſtitution is no leſs excellent than the civil, and that they are ſo cloſely and intimately blended with each other, that, as experience has ſhewn, they muſt ſtand or fall together.

It might naturally be expected, that a people thus favoured by Providence would demonſtrate their gratitude by their diſtinguiſhed goodneſs. But truth obliges us to own to your Majeſty, that the ſincerity and purity of their manners do by no means correſpond to the advantages they poſſeſs. With infinite concern we obſerve, that a more licentiouſneſs both of ſentiment and conduct, a ſpirit of frivolous diſſipation and ruinous profuſion, of diſreſpect to ſuperiors, and contempt of lawful authority, have made an alarming progreſs in the nation, and preſent a very gloomy proſpect to every ſerious and conſiderate mind.

We are fully ſenſible that much depends on the labours of the clergy in oppoſing to theſe evils the powerful operation of religious principles, and we do faithfully promiſe your Majeſty that we will exert our utmoſt efforts for this purpoſe, by redoubling our diligence in the diſcharge of our ſacred functions, by keeping the ſtricteſt guard on our own lives and converſations, by carefully teaching the true genuine doctrines of the goſpel, and impreſſing forcibly on the minds of our hearers the great practical duties of Chriſtianity, which are no leſs beneficial to ſociety than neceſſary to ſalvation.

To theſe our earneſt endeavours in the cauſe of morality and religion, we ſhall conſtantly add our moſt fervent prayers to Almighty God, that he would be pleaſed to crown with ſucceſs all your Majeſty's deſigns and undertakings for the welfare of your extenſive dominions; that as he has bleſſed your Majeſty with a numerous progeny, he may vouchſafe you the

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ftill greater comfort of feeing them copy the bright example of their royal parents; and that in this, and every other inftance, he may render your Majefty's life as happy to yourfelf, as it is dear and important to your people.

To which Addrefs his Majefty was pleafed to return the following moft gracious Anfwer:

I THANK you for this very dutiful and affectionate addrefs. It is with the deepeft concern I am informed that vice and contempt of lawful authority continue fo univerfally to prevail. Your ftrenuous endeavours to difcourage this pernicious tendency to irreligion are highly acceptable to me, and will always meet with my fupport and protection. I have nothing more at heart than to maintain the church of England as by law eftablifhed, as well as the religious and civil rights of all my people.

Joint Addrefs by both Houfes to the King, Feb. 9, 1775.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Lords fpiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament affembled, return our moft humble thanks for your Majefty having been gracioufly pleafed to communicate to us the feveral papers relating to the prefent ftate of the Britifh colonies in America, which, by your Majefty's commands, have been laid before us.

We have taken them into our moft ferious confideration, and we find that a part of your Majefty's fubjects in the province of the Maffachufett's Bay have proceeded fo far as to refift the authority of the fupreme legiflature, and that a rebellion at this time actually exifts within the faid province: and we fee, with the utmoft concern, that they have been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful combinations and engagements entered into by your Majefty's fubjects in feveral of the other colonies, to the injury and oppreffion of many of their innocent fellow-fubjects, refident within the kingdom of Great Britain, and the reft of your Majefty's dominions. This conduct on their part appears to us the more inexcufable, when we confider with how much temper your Majefty and the two Houfes of Parliament have acted in fupport of the laws and the conftitution of Great Britain. We can never fo far de-

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sert the trust reposed in us, as to relinquish any part of the sovereign authority over all your Majesty's dominions, which by law is vested in your Majesty and the two Houses of Parliament: and the conduct of many persons in several of the colonies during the late disturbances is alone sufficient to convince us how necessary this power is for the protection of the lives and fortunes of all your Majesty's subjects. We have ever been, and always shall be ready to pay attention and regard to any real grievances of any of your Majesty's subjects, which shall in a dutiful and constitutional manner be laid before us. And whenever any of the colonies shall make a proper application to us, we shall be ready to afford them every just and reasonable indulgence. At the same time we consider it as our indispensable duty, humbly to beseech your Majesty, that you will take the most effectual measures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the supreme legislature. And we beg leave, in the most solemn manner to assure your Majesty, that it is our fixed resolution, at the hazard of our lives and properties, to stand by your Majesty against all rebellious attempts in the maintenance of the just rights of your Majesty, and the two Houses of Parliament.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and loyal address, and for the affectionate and solemn assurances you give me of your support in maintaining the just rights of my crown, and of the two Houses of Parliament, and you may depend on my taking the most speedy and effectual measures for enforcing due obedience to the laws and the authority of the supreme legislature.

Whenever any of my colonies shall make a proper and dutiful application, I shall be ready to concur with you in affording them every just and reasonable indulgence, and it is my ardent wish, that this disposition on our part may have a happy effect on the temper and conduct of my subjects in America.

Message

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, Feb. 10, 1775.

George Rex.

HIS Majesty being determined, in consequence of the address of both Houses of Parliament, to take the most speedy and effectual measures for supporting the just rights of his crown, and the two Houses of Parliament, thinks proper to acquaint this House, that some addition to his forces by sea and land will be necessary for that purpose; and does not doubt but his faithful Commons, on whose zeal and affection he entirely relies, will enable him to make such an augmentation to his forces, as the present occasion shall be thought to require. G. R.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, April 12, 1775.

George Rex.

HIS Majesty being desirous that a better and more suitable accommodation should be made for the residence of the Queen, in case she shall survive his Majesty, and being willing that the palace in which his Majesty now resides, lately known by the name of Buckingham house, and now called the Queen's house, may be settled for that purpose in lieu of Somerset house, recommends it to his faithful Commons to take the same into their consideration; and to make provision for settling the said palace upon her Majesty, and for appropriating Somerset house to such uses as shall be found most beneficial for the public. G. R.

Speech by the Speaker of the House of Commons, May 26, 1775.

Most gracious Sovereign,

YOUR faithful Commons present to you three money bills; the first for raising money by loans on Exchequer bills for the service of the year 1775; the second for establishing a lottery, and for paying off 1,000,000l. 3 per cent annuities, and for other purposes therein mentioned, and the other for appropriating the surplusses of the sinking fund for the service of the current year. These are all necessary grants, but they are yet very heavy, and are what nothing but the particular exigencies

gencies of the times could justify in a time of profound peace. The unhappy differences in America have been the chief cause of this expence; and I trust, that when the people of America see, in a proper light, the conduct of this country, they will learn to pay proper obedience to the laws; if, on the contrary, they should persist in their resolutions, and that the sword must be drawn, your faithful Commons will do every thing in their power to maintain and support the supremacy of this legislature. A great part of the session has been taken up in determining complaints respecting controverted elections. I cannot but admire the wisdom of the last Parliament in enacting that law; neither can I withhold the praise justly due to the committees who have acted so much to the satisfaction of the public, and so fully in discharge of their own consciences. On the whole, Sir, I make no doubt but you will faithfully apply the money thus granted to the purposes for which it was appropriated.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, May 26, 1775.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT, in justice to you, forbear to express my entire satisfaction in your conduct during the course of this important session.

You have maintained, with a firm and steady resolution, the rights of my crown, and the authority of Parliament, which I shall ever consider as inseparable: you have protected and promoted the commercial interests of my kingdoms; and you have, at the same time, given convincing proofs of your readiness (as far as the constitution will allow you) to gratify the wishes and remove the apprehensions of my subjects in America: and I am persuaded, that the most salutary effects must, in the end, result from measures formed and conducted on such principles.

The late mark of your affectionate attachment to me, and to the Queen, and the zeal and unanimity which accompanied it, demand my particular thanks.

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that, as well from the general dispositions of other powers, as from the solemn assurances which I have received, I have great reason to expect the continuance of peace: nothing on my part, consistent with the maintenance of the honour and interest of my kingdoms, shall be wanting to secure the public tranquillity.

Gentlemen

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

It gives me much concern, that the unhappy disturbances in some of my colonies have obliged me to propose to you an augmentation of my army, and have prevented me from completing the intended reduction of the establishment of my naval forces. I cannot sufficiently thank you for the cheerfulness and public spirit with which you have granted the supplies for the several services of the current year,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have nothing to desire of you, but to use your best endeavours to preserve and to cultivate, in your several counties, the same regard for public order, and the same discernment of their true interests, which have in these times distinguished the character of my faithful and beloved people; and the continuance of which cannot fail to render them happy at home, and respected abroad.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-seventh day of July next, to be then here held: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-seventh day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 9, 1772.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE present situation of America, and my constant desire to have your advice, concurrence, and assistance on every important occasion, have determined me to call you thus early together.

Those who have long too successfully laboured to inflame my people in America by gross misrepresentations, and to infuse into their minds a system of opinions repugnant to the true constitution of the colonies, and to their subordinate relation to Great Britain, now openly avow their revolt, hostility, and rebellion. They have raised troops, and are collecting a naval force; they have seized the public revenue, and assumed to themselves legislative, executive, and judicial powers, which

they already exerciſe, in the moſt arbitrary manner, over the perſons and properties of their fellow ſubjects: and although many of theſe unhappy people may ſtill retain their loyalty, and may be too wiſe not to ſee the fatal conſequence of this uſurpation, and wiſh to reſiſt it, yet the torrent of violence has been ſtrong enough to compel their acquieſcence, till a force ſhall appear to ſupport them.

The authors and promoters of this deſperate conſpiracy have, in the conduct of it, derived great advantage from the difference of our intentions and theirs. They meant only to amuſe by vague expreſſions of attachment to the parent ſtate, and the ſtrongeſt proteſtations of loyalty to me, whilſt they were preparing for a general revolt. On our part, though it was declared in your laſt ſeſſion that a rebellion exiſted within the province of Maſſachuſetts Bay, yet even that province we wiſhed rather to reclaim than to ſubdue. The reſolutions of Parliament breathed a ſpirit of moderation and forbearance, conciliatory propoſitions accompanied the meaſures taken to enforce authority, and the coercive acts were adapted to caſes of criminal combinations amongſt ſubjects not then in arms. I have acted with the ſame temper, anxious to prevent, if it had been poſſible, the effuſion of the blood of my ſubjects, and the calamities which are inſeparable from a ſtate of war, ſtill hoping that my people in America would have diſcerned the traitorous views of their leaders, and have been convinced, that to be a ſubject of Great Britain, with all its conſequences, is to be the freeſt member of any civil ſociety in the known world.

The rebellious war now levied is become more general, and is manifeſtly carried on for the purpoſe of eſtabliſhing an independent empire. I need not dwell upon the fatal effects of the ſucceſs of ſuch a plan. The object is too important, the ſpirit of the Britiſh nation too high, the reſources with which God hath bleſſed her too numerous, to give up ſo many colonies which ſhe has planted with great induſtry, nurſed with great tenderneſs, encouraged with many commercial advantages, and protected and defended at much expence of blood and treaſure.

It is now become the part of wiſdom, and (in its effects) of clemency, to put a ſpeedy end to theſe diſorders by the moſt deciſive exertions. For this purpoſe, I have increaſed my naval eſtabliſhment, and greatly augmented my land forces; but in ſuch a manner as may be the leaſt burthenſome to my kingdoms.

I have alſo the ſatisfaction to inform you, that I have received the moſt friendly offers of foreign aſſiſtance, and if I ſhall

ſhall make any treaties in conſequence thereof, they ſhall be laid before you. And I have in teſtimony of my affection for my people, who can have no cauſe in which I am not equally intereſted, ſent to the garriſons of Gibraltar and Port Mahon a part of my electoral troops, in order that a larger number of the eſtabliſhed forces of this kingdom may be applied to the maintenance of its authority; and the national militia, planned and regulated with equal regard to the rights, ſafety, and protection of my crown and people, may give a farther extent and activity to our military operations.

When the unhappy and deluded multitude, againſt whom this force will be directed, ſhall become ſenſible of their error, I ſhall be ready to receive the miſled with tenderneſs and mercy: and in order to prevent the inconveniencies which may ariſe from the great diſtance of their ſituation, and to remove as ſoon as poſſible the calamities which they ſuffer, I ſhall give authority to certain perſons upon the ſpot to grant general or particular pardons and indemnities, in ſuch manner, and to ſuch perſons as they ſhall think fit, and to receive the ſubmiſſion of any province or colony, which ſhall be diſpoſed to return to its allegiance. It may be alſo proper to authoriſe the perſons ſo commiſſioned to reſtore ſuch province or colony ſo returning to its allegiance, to the free exerciſe of its trade and commerce, and to the ſame protection and ſecurity as if ſuch province or colony had never revolted.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the proper eſtimates for the enſuing year to be laid before you; and I rely on your affection to me, and your reſolution to maintain the juſt rights of this country, for ſuch ſupplies as the preſent circumſtances of our affairs require. Among the many unavoidable ill conſequences of this rebellion, none affects me more ſenſibly than the extraordinary burthen which it muſt create to my faithful ſubjects.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have fully opened to you my views and intentions. The conſtant employment of my thoughts, and the moſt earneſt wiſhes of my heart, tend wholly to the ſafety and happineſs of all my people, and to the re-eſtabliſhment of order and tranquillity through the ſeveral parts of my dominions, in a cloſe connection and conſtitutional dependance. You ſee the tendency of the preſent diſorders, and I have ſtated to you the meaſures which I mean to purſue for ſuppreſſing them. Whatever remains to be done that may farther contribute to this end, I commit to your wiſdom. And I am happy to add, that, as

well

well from the assurances I have received, as from the general appearances of affairs in Europe, I see no probability that the measures which you may adopt will be interrupted by disputes with any foreign power.

Address of the House of Lords to the King, Oct. 27, 1775.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

With the utmost [illegible] and indignation, we see the [illegible], who by the grossest misre[illegible] have deluded and precipitated our unhappy fellow-subjects in America into measures most subversive of the [illegible] and true interests, and dangerous to the prosperity and safety of Great Britain. The powers they have assumed, and the arbitrary and oppressive acts which they have done [illegible] traiterous purpose to induce the [illegible] the supreme legislature, and to [illegible] m[illegible] have been planted, [illegible] the many [illegible] of blood and [illegible] have been protected by this nation.

We cannot avoid [illegible] that the great tenderness with which your Majesty [illegible] and the conciliatory disposition [illegible] of Parliament, instead of having [illegible] of undeceiving the misled, and establishing a confidence in the parent state, have been turned to their advantage, and made instrumental to the purpose of this dangerous attempt, and whilst we acknowledge this to be the consequence of the difference of intention which prevails here and in America, we are penetrated with a just sense of the motives which have regulated your Majesty's endeavours to prevent, if it had been possible, the effusion of the blood of our fellow subjects, and the calamities which are inseparable from a state of war; but since the rebellion is now become more general, and manifests the purpose of establishing and maintaining an independent empire, we cannot but applaud your Majesty's resolution to vindicate the rights, the interests, and the honour of this kingdom, by a speedy and most

decisive

decisive exertion; and for this purpose we think it our indispensable duty to declare that we will support your Majesty with our lives and fortunes; and being fully persuaded, that in the present state of these disorders, the most active will, in its effects, be the most merciful mode of proceeding, we hear with pleasure, that your Majesty has increased your naval establishment, and also greatly augmented your land forces. We are sensible of your Majesty's kind consideration, in having done it in such a manner as may be the least burthensome to your kingdoms; and your Majesty may be assured, that we shall cheerfully concur in whatever may be necessary to enable your Majesty to profit of the friendly disposition of foreign powers.

We are deeply impressed by the gracious motives which induced your Majesty to send a part of your electoral troops to the garrisons of Gibraltar and Port Mahon, by which assistance this country will be enabled to employ a larger number of its own established forces in the maintenance of its authority; and we return your Majesty our sincerest thanks for having so providentially pointed out to us a farther resource in that national body of men so constitutional in their nature, and so zealous in their duty, the militia of this kingdom.

We cannot sufficiently admire your Majesty's benevolent declaration, that when the wished-for period arrives, that the unhappy and deluded multitude, against whom this force will be directed, shall become sensible of their error, your Majesty will receive the misled with tenderness and mercy; and we are fully sensible of the wise and compassionate sentiments which have determined your Majesty to delegate authority to certain persons upon the spot, to grant general or particular pardons and indemnities in such manner, and to such persons, as they shall think fit, and to receive the submission of any province or colony which shall be disposed to return to its allegiance; and we will most readily concur in granting to the persons so commissioned such farther powers as may best tend to promote and effectuate your Majesty's salutary measures.

Permit us, Sir, to offer our grateful acknowledgments to your Majesty for the full and explicit communication which your Majesty has been pleased to make to us, and at the same time to express the just sense we entertain of the numerous blessings we enjoy, flowing from the source of never-ceasing attention with which your Majesty is occupied for the safety and happiness of all your people; and we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we participate the same desire which animates your royal breast, and feel no other wish than to re-establish order and tranquillity through the several parts of your

dominions, upon the basis of a close connection with, and constitutional dependance upon Great Britain.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I RECEIVE with the most sensible satisfaction this address, so fully expressive of your duty and loyalty to me. Nothing can be more acceptable than the assurances you give of your utmost support to enable me to re-establish order and tranquillity throughout all my dominions, and I shall most heartily concur with any measures that may tend to so salutary a purpose.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Oct. 27, 1775.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the humble thanks of this House for your Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us, Sir, to assure your Majesty, that we have long lamented the condition of our unhappy fellow subjects in America, seduced from their allegiance by the grossest misrepresentations, and the most wicked and insidious pretences, they have been made the instruments of the ambition, and traitorous designs of those dangerous men who have led them step by step, to the standard of rebellion, and who have now assumed the powers of sovereign authority which they exercise in the most despotic and arbitrary manner over the persons and properties of this deluded people.

Your faithful Commons took a sincere part in your Majesty's benevolent and paternal desire, rather to reclaim, than to subdue, the most refractory of your colonies; and excited by your Majesty's great example, we were anxious to prevent, if it had been possible, the effusion of the blood of our fellow-subjects, and the calamities which are inseparable from a state of war; we still hoped that your Majesty's people in America would have discerned the traitorous views of their leaders, would have considered how ruinous even their success must be to themselves, and been convinced that constitutional subjection to Great Britain is the freest and happiest condition of any civil society in the known world: but we now see with indignation, that no other use has been made of the moderation and forbearance of your

your Majesty and your Parliament, but to strengthen the preparations of this desperate conspiracy; and that the rebellious war now levied is become more general, and manifestly carried on for the purpose of establishing an independent empire.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty of our entire concurrence with your Majesty, in thinking that it is now become the part of wisdom, and (in its effects) of clemency, to put a speedy end to these disorders by the most decisive exertions; and that we learn with great satisfaction, that for this purpose your Majesty has increased your naval establishment, and greatly augmented your land forces, in such a manner as may be the least burthensome to your kingdoms; and we will cheerfully and effectually support your Majesty in such necessary measures, and enable your Majesty, when the occasion shall require it, to avail yourself of the friendly offers, which your Majesty has received of foreign assistance. We thankfully acknowledge the gracious considerations which induced your Majesty to send a part of your electoral troops to the garrisons of Gibraltar and Port Mahon, in order that a larger number of the established forces of this kingdom might be applied to the maintenance of its authority: and we are bound in duty to return your Majesty our particular thanks, for pointing out to us from the throne, the constitutional resource of our well-modelled and well-regulated national militia: which, upon every great emergency, cannot fail of affording security to your Majesty's realm, and of giving, at the same time, extent and activity to your military operations.

It is with the highest satisfaction and gratitude we hear the affectionate declaration of the father of his people, that when the unhappy and deluded multitude, against whom this force will be directed, shall become sensible of their error, your Majesty will be ready to receive the misled with tenderness and mercy; and your Majesty's gracious communication of your intention to give authority to certain persons on the spot, to grant general and particular pardons and indemnities, in such manner and to such persons as they shall think fit, and to receive the submission of any province or colony, which may be disposed to return to its allegiance, demands our warmest acknowledgments; and we shall be ready to give our concurrence to such measures as may best contribute to carry your Majesty's wise and humane intentions into execution.

Every motive, and every interest, that can animate the hearts of loyal subjects, call upon your faithful Commons to grant to your Majesty such supplies as the circumstances and exigency of affairs may require; and being fully convinced that the security of every benefit and advantage derived to the

commerce, the manufactures, and the navigation of your Majesty's kingdoms, from the American colonies, must ever depend on their being held in that due subordination to the legislature of Great Britain in which the constitution has placed them, we should be wanting in the duty we owe to our constituents, ourselves, and our posterity, if we did not engage with our lives and fortunes to support this great and important cause, in which the rights of your Majesty's crown and the interests of your people are so essentially concerned, and we hope and trust that we shall, by the blessing of God, put such strength and force into your Majesty's hands, as may soon defeat and suppress this rebellion, and enable your Majesty to accomplish your gracious wish, of re-establishing order, tranquillity, and happiness, through all the parts of your united empire.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this loyal and dutiful address: I promise myself the most happy consequences from the very dutiful and affectionate assurances of the support of my faithful Commons on this great and important conjuncture, and I have a firm confidence, that by the blessing of God, and the justice of the cause, and by the assistance of my Parliament, I shall be enabled to suppress this dangerous rebellion, and to attain the most desirable end of restoring my subjects in America to the free and happy condition, and to the peace and prosperity which they enjoyed in their constitutional dependence on Great Britain before the present unhappy disorders.

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majesty, May 23, 1776.

May it please your Majesty,

YOUR Majesty's faithful Commons have in the present session passed several wise, salutary, and necessary laws; particularly the law for prohibiting all trade and commerce with America, the law for the more speedy and effectual manning your Majesty's navy, and the law for establishing a national militia. Your Majesty's faithful Commons, with equal assiduity and attention, have performed every duty through a long and severe session. The business of America has engrossed the greatest part of their attention, nothing has been

been wanting on their part to strengthen the hands of government; they have voted the most full and ample supplies. Convinced of the justice and necessity of securing the subordinate dependence of America, they have cheerfully co-operated in every proposition for securing the duty of your Majesty's subjects in that country, and their obedience to the legislative power of Great Britain. Your Majesty's faithful Commons, whatever measures may have been taken for the security of both, by a proper exertion of the strength of this country, do not wish for conquest but for peace and conciliation: and trusting to your Majesty's parental attention to the interests of every part of the empire, they have a full reliance on your Majesty's wisdom and goodness, that the present disputes with America will be happily terminated, and peace established on so firm a basis, as to prevent a return of the same evil in times to come.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, May 23, 1776.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE conclusion of the public business, and the advanced season of the year, make it proper for me to give you some recess, but I cannot put an end to this session without assuring you, that the fresh instances of your affectionate attachment to me, and of your steady attention and adherence to the true interests of your country, which you have shewn through the whole course of your important deliberations, afford me the highest satisfaction.

No alteration has happened in the state of foreign affairs since your meeting, and it is with pleasure I inform you, that the assurances which I have received of the disposition of the several powers in Europe promise a continuance of the general tranquillity.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

It was with real regret and concern that I found myself under the necessity of asking of my faithful Commons any extraordinary supplies: I thank you for the readiness and dispatch with which they have been granted; and they are the more acceptable to me, as you have shewn, in the manner of raising them, an equal regard to the exigencies of the service, and the ease of my people; and you may be assured, that the confidence you repose in me shall be used with proper frugality, and applied only to the purposes for which it was intended.

 My

My Lords and Gentlemen,

We are engaged in a great national cause, the prosecution of which must inevitably be attended with many difficulties and much expence: but when we consider that the essential rights and interests of the whole empire are deeply concerned in the issue of it, and can have no safety or security but in that constitutional subordination for which we are contending, I am convinced that you will not think any price too high for the preservation of such objects.

I will still entertain a hope, that my rebellious subjects may be awakened to a sense of their error, and that by a voluntary return to their duty, they will justify me in bringing about the favourite wish of my heart, the restoration of harmony and the re-establishment of order and happiness in every part of my dominions. But if a due submission should not be obtained from such motives and such dispositions on their part, I trust that I shall be able, under the blessing of Providence, to effectuate it by a full exertion of the great force with which you have entrusted me.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday the 1st day of August next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday the 1st day of August next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Oct. 31, 1776.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

NOTHING could have afforded me so much satisfaction as to have been able to inform you, at the opening of this session, that the troubles which have so long distracted my colonies in North America were at an end; and that my unhappy people, recovered from their delusion, had delivered themselves from the oppression of their leaders, and returned to their duty: but so daring and desperate is the spirit of those leaders, whose object has always been dominion and power, that they have now openly renounced all allegiance to the crown, and all political connection with this country: they have rejected, with circumstances of indignity and insult the means of conciliation held out to them under the authority of our

our commiſſion; and have preſumed to ſet up their rebellious confederacies for independent ſtates. If their treaſon be ſuffered to take root much miſchief muſt grow from it, to the ſafety of my loyal colonies, to the commerce of my kingdoms, and indeed to the preſent ſyſtem of all Europe. One great advantage, however, will be derived from the object of the rebels being openly avowed, and clearly underſtood; we ſhall have unanimity at home, founded in the general conviction of the juſtice and neceſſity of our meaſures.

I am happy to inform you, that by the bleſſing of divine Providence on the good conduct and valour of my officers and forces by ſea and land, and on the zeal and bravery of the auxiliary troops in my ſervice, Canada is recovered; and although, from unavoidable delays, the operations at New York could not begin before the month of Auguſt, the ſucceſs in that province has been ſo important as to give the ſtrongeſt hopes of the moſt deciſive good conſequences: but, notwithſtanding this fair proſpect, we muſt, at all events, prepare for another campaign.

I continue to receive aſſurances of amity from the ſeveral courts of Europe; and am uſing my utmoſt endeavours to conciliate unhappy differences between two neighbouring powers; and I ſtill hope that all miſunderſtandings may be removed, and Europe continue to enjoy the ineſtimable bleſſings of peace: I think, neverthelеſs, that in the preſent ſituation of affairs, it is expedient that we ſhould be in a reſpectable ſtate of defence at home.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I will order the eſtimates for the enſuing year to be laid before you. It is matter of real concern to me, that the important conſiderations which I have ſtated to you muſt neceſſarily be followed by great expence; I doubt not, however, but that my faithful Commons will readily and cheerfully grant me ſuch ſupplies, as the maintenance of the honour of my crown, the vindication of the juſt rights of Parliament, and the public welfare ſhall be found to require.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

In this arduous conteſt I can have no other object but to promote the true intereſts of all my ſubjects. No people ever enjoyed more happineſs, or lived under a milder government, than thoſe now revolted provinces: the improvements in every art, of which they boaſt, declare it: their numbers, their wealth, their ſtrength by ſea and land, which they think ſuf-

ficient to enable them to make head against the whole power of the mother country, are irrefragable proofs of it. My dedesire is to restore to them the blessings of law and liberty, equally enjoyed by every British subject, which they have fatally and desperately exchanged for all the calamities of war, and the arbitrary tyranny of their chiefs.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Oct. 31, 1776.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

It is with the truest satisfaction we congratulate your Majesty on the success of your arms in the province of New York, the recovery of Canada, and the fair prospect of decisive good consequences, which, under the blessing of divine Providence, is now opened by the firmness of your Majesty's councils, the valour and good conduct of your Majesty's officers and forces, by sea and land, and by the zeal and bravery of the auxiliary troops in your Majesty's service.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that nothing would have given us equal happiness to the having been informed by your Majesty, at the opening of this session, that the troubles which have so long distracted North America, had been at an end; that your Majesty's unhappy people in those provinces had recovered from their delusion, and, awakened by a due sense of their misfortunes and misdoings, had delivered themselves from the oppression of their leaders, and were returned to their duty. While we lament that your Majesty's humane and merciful intentions have been frustrated by the neglect shewn to the means of conciliation, notified under the authority of your Majesty's royal commission, we feel the strongest indignation at the insolent manner in which they were rejected; and we want words to express our abhorrence of the desperate spirit of those overbearing men, who with an insatiable thirst of power and dominion, which has uniformly actuated all their proceedings, have now renounced allegiance to the crown, and all political connection with Great-Britain; and, with an arrogance equal to the enormity of the attempt, lest a doubt of their real designs should remain on the breast of any person whatever, have set up their rebellious confederacies for independent states. We are fully aware of the mischief which would accrue from the success of this treason to your Majesty's loyal colonies, to the commerce

commerce of this nation, and, more remotely indeed, but no less certainly, to the syſtem of Europe, and to every ſtate upon the continent of Europe poſſeſſed of diſtant colonies.

We reflect with pleaſure on the ſolid advantage which will be derived from the object of the rebels being openly avowed and clearly underſtood, the unanimity which will prevail at home, founded in a conviction of the juſtice and neceſſity of your Majeſty's meaſures. Inſpired with the ſame zeal for the cauſe of our country which animates the kingdom at large, we will ſteadily ſupport your Majeſty in the vindication of the honour of your crown, and the juſt rights of Parliament, and will cheerfully concur in making the neceſſary proviſions for thoſe great purpoſes.

The aſſurances of amity, which your Majeſty continues to receive from the ſeveral courts of Europe, afford us great ſatisfaction, we entertain the moſt grateful ſenſe of the endeavours which your Majeſty is exerting to conciliate unhappy differences between two neighbouring powers, and we truſt that, by your Majeſty's auſpicious endeavours, theſe miſunderſtandings will be removed, and Europe continue to enjoy the ineſtimable bleſſing of peace. Permit us, Sir, at the ſame time, to return to your Majeſty our dutiful thanks for your provident attention in guarding againſt any event which may ariſe out of the preſent ſituation of affairs, by keeping us in a reſpectable ſtate of defence at home.

With hearts full of duty and gratitude, we acknowledge the happineſs, which, under your Majeſty's mild government, is extended to every part of the Britiſh empire; of which the late flouriſhing ſtate of the revolted provinces, their numbers, their wealth, their ſtrength by ſea and land, which they think ſufficient to enable them to make head againſt the whole power of the mother country, ſhew that they have abundantly particip[ated.] And we earneſtly hope, that your Majeſty's paternal object of reſtoring your diſtracted colonies to the happy condition from which by their own miſconduct they are wretchedly fallen, will be ſpeedily attained.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my thanks for this dutiful and affectionate addreſs.

It is with great pleaſure I obſerve the ſatisfaction which the ſucceſs of my arms againſt the rebels in North America has give[n]

given to all my loving subjects. That which you express is highly acceptable to me.

The preservation of the public tranquillity, the happiness of all my people, and the maintenance of our most excellent constitution, are the invariable objects of my heart.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Oct. 31, 1776.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the humble thanks of this House for your most gracious speech from the throne.

While we lament the continuance of the troubles which have so long distracted your Majesty's colonies in North America, and of the calamities and oppressions which our unhappy fellow subjects are still suffering under the arbitrary tyranny of their leaders, we cannot forbear to express our detestation and abhorrence of the audacious and desperate spirit of ambition, which has at last carried those leaders so far as to make them openly renounce all allegiance to the crown, and all political connection with this country; and in direct terms, to presume to set up their rebellious confederacies for independent states.

We consider their rejection of the gracious and condescending means of reconciliation, held out to them under the authority of your Majesty's commission, as a fresh and convincing proof that the object of these men has always been power and dominion; but we can impute the circumstances of indignity and insult accompanying this proceeding to no other motive than a resentment of your Majesty's firm and constant adherence to the maintenance of the constitutional rights of Parliament, divested of every possible view of any separate interests of the crown: and we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that the same attachment of your Majesty to the parliamentary authority of Great Britain, which hath provoked the insolence of the chiefs of this rebellion, cannot but operate, as it ought to do, in fixing your Majesty still deeper, if possible, in the affections of a British House of Commons.

With reverence and gratitude to divine Providence, permit us to express our unfeigned joy, and to offer our sincere congratulations to your Majesty on the success which has attended the good conduct and valour of your Majesty's officers and forces, both by sea and land, and the zeal and bravery of the auxiliary

troops in your ſervice, in the recovery of Canada, and in the important operations in the province of New York, which give the ſtrongeſt hope of the moſt deciſive good conſequences.

It is with much ſatisfaction we learn, that your Majeſty continues to receive aſſurances of amity from the ſeveral courts of Europe: and we thankfully acknowledge your Majeſty's goodneſs and paternal concern for the happineſs of your people, in your conſtant attention to preſerve the general tranquillity; and it is our moſt earneſt wiſh, that, by your Majeſty's interpoſition, all miſunderſtandings and differences between two neighbouring powers may be happily reconciled, and Europe ſtill enjoy the bleſſings of peace.

Your faithful Commons conſider it as a duty which they owe to your Majeſty, and to thoſe they repreſent, to grant your Majeſty ſuch ſupplies as the weighty conſiderations which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to ſtate to us, ſhall be found to require; and we have a well-grounded confidence, that, at this time, when the object of the rebels is openly avowed and clearly underſtood, the general conviction of the juſtice and neceſſity of your Majeſty's meaſures muſt unite all ranks of your faithful ſubjects in ſupporting your Majeſty with one mind and heart in the great national cauſe in which you are engaged.

Meſſage from his Majeſty to the Houſes of Lords and Commons, April 9, 1777.

GEORGE REX.

IT gives his Majeſty much concern to find himſelf obliged to acquaint the Houſe of Commons with the difficulties he labours under, by reaſon of debts incurred by the expences of his houſehold, and his civil government; which being computed on the 5th of January laſt, do amount to more than 600,000*l.* his Majeſty relies on the loyalty and affection of his faithful Commons, of which he has received ſo many ſignal proofs, for enabling him to diſcharge this debt; and that they will at the ſame time make ſome further proviſion for the better ſupport of his Majeſty's houſehold, and of the honour and dignity of the crown. G. R.

Speech

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majesty, in the House of Peers, on presenting Bills for his Royal Assent, May 7, 1777.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

THE bill which it is now my duty to present to your Majesty, is intituled, "An act for the better support of his Majesty's houshold, and of the honour and dignity of the crown of Great Britain;" to which your Commons humbly beg your royal assent.

By this bill, Sir, and the respectful circumstances which preceded and accompanied it, your Commons have given the fullest and clearest proof of their zeal and affection for your Majesty; for in a time of public distress, full of difficulty and danger, their constituents labour under burthens almost too heavy to be borne, your faithful Commons postponed all other business, and, with as much dispatch as the nature of their proceedings would admit, have not only granted to your Majesty a large present supply, but also a very great additional revenue; great beyond example; great beyond your Majesty's highest expence.

But all this, Sir, they have done in a well-grounded confidence, that you will apply wisely, what they have granted liberally; and feeling, what every good subject must feel, with the greatest satisfaction, that under the direction of your Majesty's wisdom, the affluence and grandeur of the sovereign will reflect dignity and honour upon his people.

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majesty, June 6, 1777.

Most gracious Sovereign,

YOUR Majesty's loyal Commons have passed five money bills for the service of the current year. The first a bill for enabling your Majesty to defray the extra expences of the American war, and to make good the deficiency of the gold coin; the second for raising five millions by annuities, and for establishing a lottery; another for laying a tax upon servants; another for laying a tax upon auctions, and upon sales of estates, leases, and goods by auction; and another, for granting to your Majesty a certain sum out of the sinking fund, and for appropriating the several sums granted in this session to uses therein provided, to which your faithful Commons, Sir, humbly desire your assent. Your Commons, Sir, in the course of the present sessions, have applied themselves with all possible diligence to public business; and have done all in their power to procure the ease, happiness, and prosperity of your subjects; and have granted the most ample supplies. They have strengthened the

hands

hands of government, and have done all in their power to promote a ſpeedy and effectual reconciliation with America. They are fully conſcious how neceſſary it is that the troubles in America ſhould be amicably ſettled, and that the legiſlative authority of this country ſhould be eſtabliſhed and maintained over all your Majeſty's dominions. Your faithful Commons, firmly relying on your Majeſty's wiſdom and true regard to the intereſt of all your ſubjects, have ſtrengthened your hands in the fulleſt manner, and have every right to expect that your Majeſty's ſubjects in America will return to a proper ſenſe of their duty; and that diſorder and rebellion will give place to peace and conciliation.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, June 6, 1777.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE concluſion of the public buſineſs, and the conſideration of the inconvenience which I fear you muſt have ſuffered by ſo long an attendance, call upon me to put an end to this ſeſſion of Parliament; but I cannot let you go into your ſeveral counties without expreſſing my entire approbation of your conduct, and without thanking you for the unqueſtionable proofs you have given to me and to all the world, of the continuance of your attachment to my perſon and government, of your clear diſcernment of the true intereſts of your country, and of your ſteady perſeverance in maintaining the rights of the legiſlature.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I cannot ſufficiently thank you for the zeal and public ſpirit with which you have granted the large and extraordinary ſupplies which I have found myſelf under the neceſſity of aſking of my faithful Commons for the ſervice of the current year; and I muſt at the ſame time acknowledge the particular marks of your affection to me, as well in enabling me to diſcharge the debts contracted on account of my civil government, as in making ſo conſiderable an augmentation to the civil liſt revenue during my life.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I truſt in the divine Providence, that by a well concerted and vigorous exertion of the great force you have g[illegible]n to my hands, the operations of this campaign, by [illegible] and [illegible], will be bleſſed with ſuch ſucceſs as may moſt effectu[illegible]ly t[illegible] the ſuppreſſion of the rebellion in America, and to the re-eſtabliſh-ment

ment of that conſtitutional obedience which all the ſubjects of a free ſtate owe to the authority of the law.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Monday the 21ſt day of July next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Monday the 21ſt day of July next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, Nov. 20, 1777.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is a great ſatisfaction to me that I can have recourſe to the wiſdom and ſupport of my Parliament in this conjuncture, when the continuance of the rebellion in North America demands our moſt ſerious attention. The powers which you have intruſted me with for the ſuppreſſion of this revolt have been faithfully exerted; and I have a juſt confidence that the conduct and courage of my officers, and the ſpirit and intrepidity of my forces, both by ſea and land, will, under the bleſſing of divine Providence, be attended with important ſucceſs; but as I am perſuaded that you will ſee the neceſſity of preparing for ſuch further operations as the contingencies of the war, and the obſtinacy of the rebels may render expedient, I am, for that purpoſe, purſuing the proper meaſures for keeping my land forces complete to their preſent eſtabliſhment; and if I ſhould have occaſion to increaſe them, by contracting any new engagements, I rely on your zeal and public ſpirit to enable me to make them good.

I receive repeated aſſurances from foreign powers of their pacific diſpoſitions. My own cannot be doubted. But at this time, when the armaments in the ports of France and Spain continue, I have thought it adviſeable to make a conſiderable augmentation in my naval force, as well to keep my kingdoms in a reſpectable ſtate of ſecurity, as to provide an adequate protection for the extenſive commerce of my ſubjects; and as, on the one hand, I am determined that the peace of Europe ſhall not be diſturbed by me, ſo on the other, I will always be a faithful guardian of the honour of the crown of Great Britain.

Gentlemen

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the eſtimates for the enſuing year to be laid before you. The various ſervices which I have mentioned to you will unavoidably require large ſupplies, and nothing could relieve my mind from the concern which I feel for the heavy charge which they muſt bring on my faithful people, but the perfect conviction that they are neceſſary for the welfare and the eſſential intereſts of my kingdoms.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I will ſteadily purſue the meaſures in which we are engaged for the re-eſtabliſhment of that conſtitutional ſubordination, which, with the bleſſing of God, I will maintain through the ſeveral parts of my dominions; but I ſhall ever be watchful for an opportunity of putting a ſtop to the effuſion of the blood of my ſubjects, and the calamities which are inſeparable from a ſtate of war. And I ſtill hope that the deluded and unhappy multitude will return to their allegiance; and that the remembrance of what they once enjoyed, the regret for what they have loſt, and the feelings of what they now ſuffer under the arbitrary tyranny of their leaders, will rekindle in their hearts a ſpirit of loyalty to their ſovereign, and of attachment to their mother country, and that they will enable me, with the concurrence and ſupport of my Parliament, to accompliſh what I ſhall conſider as the greateſt happineſs of my life, and the greateſt glory of my reign, the reſtoration of peace, order, and confidence to my American colonies.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, Nov. 20, 1777.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Permit us, Sir, to offer our congratulations to your Majeſty on the increaſe of your domeſtic happineſs by the birth of another princeſs, and the recovery of your royal conſort; who is moſt highly endeared to this nation, as well by her Majeſty's eminent and amiable virtues, as by every new pledge of ſecurity to our religious and civil liberties.

We are duly ſenſible of your Majeſty's goodneſs in recurring to the advice and ſupport of your Parliament in the preſent conjuncture, when the rebellion in North America ſtill continues:

tinues: and we return your Majesty our unfeigned thanks for having communicated to us the just confidence which your Majesty reposes in the zeal, intrepidity, and exertions of your Majesty's officers and forces, both by sea and land; but at the same time that we entertain a well founded hope of the important successes, which, under the blessing of Providence, may be expected, we cannot but applaud your Majesty's unwearied vigilance and wisdom, in recommending to us to prepare, at all events, for such further operations as the contingencies of the war, and the obstinacy of the rebels may render expedient: we are therefore gratefully sensible of your Majesty's consideration in pursuing the measures necessary to keep your land forces complete to the present establishment; and we owe it both to your Majesty and ourselves to say, that we shall cheerfully concur in enabling your Majesty to make good such new engagements with foreign powers, for the augmentation of the auxiliary troops, as the weighty motives your Majesty has stated to us, may induce you to contract.

It is with great satisfaction we learn that your Majesty receives repeated assurances from foreign powers of their pacific dispositions; and with hearts full of gratitude and admiration, we acknowledge your Majesty's humane, steady, and dignified conduct, which is equally well calculated to demonstrate to the world, your Majesty's wish to preserve the general tranquillity of Europe, and your determination to maintain the honour of the crown, the security of these kingdoms, and the commercial interests of your subjects.

We thankfully receive your Majesty's declaration of perseverance in the measures now pursuing, for the re-establishment of a just and constitutional subordination through the several parts of your Majesty's dominions: and we beg leave to assure your Majesty that we participate the desire which at the same time animates your royal breast, to see a proper opportunity for putting an end to the effusion of blood, and the various calamities inseparable from a state of war.

The constant tenor of your Majesty's reign has shewn, that your whole attention is employed for the safety and happiness of all your people; and whenever our unhappy fellow-subjects in North America shall duly return to their allegiance, we shall readily concur in every wise and salutary measure which can contribute to restore confidence and order, and to fix the mutual welfare of Great Britain and her colonies on the most solid and permanent foundations.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful address, as well as for your congratulations on the increase of my family, and for the regard you express on this occasion, for the Queen.

The assurances you give me of your firm and temperate sentiments respecting the measures in which we are engaged, are highly agreeable to me; and I persuade myself, that salutary effects must be the natural result of deliberations conducted on such principles. You will ever find that the favourite wish of my heart is to promote and effectuate the common happiness and welfare of all my dominions.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 20, 1777.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the humble thanks of this House, for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Deeply interested in every event which tends to increase your Majesty's domestic felicity, and impressed with the liveliest sentiments of duty and attachment to the Queen, we beg leave to offer to your Majesty our congratulations on the birth of another princess, and on her Majesty's happy recovery.

We assure your Majesty that we take a sincere part in the confidence which your Majesty expresses, that the conduct and courage of your officers, and the spirit and intrepidity of your forces, both by sea and land, will, under divine Providence, be attended with important success; but at the same time we entirely concur with your Majesty in thinking that it is necessary to prepare for such further operations as future events and contingencies of the war may render expedient; and we learn with much satisfaction, that your Majesty is, for that purpose, pursuing the proper measures for keeping your land forces complete to their present establishment; and whenever your Majesty shall be pleased to communicate to us any new engagements which you may have entered into for increasing your military force, we will take the same into our consideration; and we trust your Majesty will not be disappointed in the gracious sentiments which you entertain of the zeal and public spirit of your faithful Commons.

We are truly ſenſible that your Majeſty's conſtant care for the welfare of your people, and your generous concern for the happineſs of mankind, diſpoſe your Majeſty to deſire that the peace of Europe may not be diſturbed; but we acknowledge with equal gratitude, your Majeſty's attention to the ſecurity of your kingdoms, and the protection of the extenſive commerce of your ſubjects, in your having made a conſiderable augmentation to your naval force, on which the reputation and importance of this nation muſt ever principally depend: and we hear with the higheſt ſatisfaction, and rely with perfect confidence on your royal declaration, that your Majeſty will always be the faithful guardian of the honour of the Britiſh crown.

We beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty that we will, without delay, enter into the conſideration of the ſupplies of the enſuing year, and that we will chearfully and effectually provide for all ſuch expences as ſhall be found neceſſary for the welfare and eſſential intereſts of theſe kingdoms, and for the vigorous proſecution of the meaſures in which we are engaged, for the re-eſtabliſhment of that conſtitutional ſubordination which we truſt, with the bleſſing of God, your Majeſty will be able to maintain through the ſeveral parts of your dominions.

We acknowledge with equal gratitude and admiration your Majeſty's paternal declaration, that you will be ever watchful for an opportunity of putting a ſtop to the effuſion of the blood of your ſubjects, and the calamities of war.

Permit us to aſſure your Majeſty that we cannot but ſtill entertain a hope that the diſcernment of their true intereſts, the remembrance of the bleſſings they once enjoyed, and the ſenſe of their preſent ſufferings under the arbitrary tyranny of their leaders, will induce the deluded and unhappy multitude to return to their allegiance, and will re-animate their hearts with a ſpirit of loyalty to their ſovereign, and of attachment to their mother country.

The gracious and condeſcending manner in which your Majeſty expreſſes your deſire that you may be enabled to reſtore peace, order, and confidence to your American colonies, cannot fail of endearing you to the hearts of all your ſubjects: and we aſſure your Majeſty, that when this great work can be accompliſhed and ſettled on the true principles of the conſtitution, your Majeſty may depend on the moſt zealous concurrence and ſupport of your faithful Commons.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this dutiful address. The affectionate part you take in the happy recovery of the Queen, and the increase of my family, is highly acceptable to me.

The steady and zealous support of my faithful Commons will, I trust in God, enable me to put an end to this unhappy rebellion. Whatever strength you shall place in my hands, shall be employed only for the good of my people and the welfare of my kingdoms; and, be assured, that I wish for success in this great national cause for no other purpose but that it may enable me to restore peace and happiness to all my subjects.

Message from his Majesty to both Houses of Parliament, March 17, 1778.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty having been informed, by order of the French King, that a treaty of amity and commerce has been signed between the Court of France and certain persons employed by his Majesty's revolted subjects in North America, has judged it necessary to direct that a copy of the declaration delivered by the French ambassador to Lord Viscount Weymouth, be laid before this House, and at the same time to acquaint them, that his Majesty has thought proper, in consequence of this offensive communication on the part of the Court of France, to send orders to his ambassador to withdraw from that court.

His Majesty is persuaded that the justice and good faith of his conduct towards foreign powers, and the sincerity of his wishes to preserve the tranquillity of Europe, will be acknowledged by all the world; and his Majesty trusts that he shall not stand responsible for the disturbance of that tranquillity if he should find himself called upon to resent so unprovoked and so unjust an aggression on the honour of his crown and the essential interests of his kingdoms, contrary to the most solemn assurances, subversive of the law of nations, and injurious to the rights of every sovereign power in Europe.

His Majesty, relying with the firmest confidence on the zealous and affectionate support of his faithful people, is determined to be prepared to exert, if it shall become necessary, all the force and resources of his kingdoms, which he trusts will

be found adequate to repel every insult and attack, and to maintain and uphold the power and reputation of this country.

G. R.

Lord North presented to the House of Commons, by his Majesty's Command, the Rescript delivered to Lord Viscount Weymouth by the French Ambassador, dated March 13, 1778.

THE under-written ambassador of his Most Christian Majesty has received an express order to deliver to the Court of London the following declaration:

"The United States of North America, which are in full possession of independence, declared by their act of the 4th of July, 1776, having caused a proposal to be made to the King, to consolidate by a formal convention, the connections that have begun to be established between the two nations, the respective plenipotentiaries have signed a treaty of amity and commerce, intended to serve as a basis for their mutual good correspondence.

"His Majesty being resolved to cultivate the good understanding subsisting between France and Great Britain, by all the means compatible with his dignity and the good of his subjects, thinks that he ought to impart this step to the Court of London, and to declare, at the same time, that the contracting parties have had attention not to stipulate any exclusive advantages in favour of the French nation; and that the United States have preserved the liberty of treating with all nations whatsoever, on the same footing of equality and reciprocity.

"In making this communication to the Court of London, the King is firmly persuaded that it will find in it fresh proofs of his Majesty's constant and sincere disposition for peace, and that his Britannic Majesty, animated by the same sentiments, will equally avoid every thing that may interrupt their harmony; and that he will take, in particular, effectual measures to prevent the commerce between his Majesty's subjects and the United States of North America from being disturbed, and to cause to be observed in this respect the usages received between trading nations, and the rules that may be deemed subsisting between the crowns of France and Great Britain.

"In this just confidence, the under-written ambassador thinks it superfluous to apprize the British minister that the King his master, being determined effectually to protect the lawful freedom of the commerce of his subjects, and to sustain the honour of his flag, his Majesty has taken, in consequence, even-

eventual meafures in concert with the United States of North America.

(Signed) LE M. DE NOAILLES."

London, March 13, 1778.

Addrefs by the Houfe of Lords to his Majefty, March 17, 1778.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament affembled, return our humble thanks to your Majefty, for the communication of the paper prefented to the Lord Vifcount Weymouth, by the order of the French King; and for acquainting us that, in confequence of this offenfive declaration, your Majefty has thought proper to order your ambaffador to withdraw from the court of France; and we beg leave to affure your Majefty, that it is with the utmoft difficulty we can reftrain the ftrongeft expreffions of the refentment and indignation which we feel for this unjuft and unprovoked aggreffion on the honour of your Majefty's crown, and the effential interefts of your kingdoms, contrary to the law of nations, and injurious to the rights and poffeffions of every fovereign power in Europe.

The good faith and uprightnefs of your Majefty's conduct towards foreign powers, and the fincerity of your intentions to preferve the general tranquillity, muft be acknowledged by all the world; and your Majefty cannot be confidered as refponfible for the difturbance of this tranquillity, if you fhould find yourfelf called upon to refift the enterprifes of that reftlefs and dangerous fpirit of ambition and aggrandizement which has fo often invaded the rights and threatened the liberties of Europe.

We fhould be wanting in our duty to your Majefty and to ourfelves, if we did not give your Majefty the ftrongeft affurances of our moft zealous affiftance and fupport: every fentiment of loyalty to your Majefty, and love to our country, will animate us to ftand forth in the public defence, and to promote every meafure that fhall be found neceffary for enabling your Majefty to vindicate the honour of your crown, and to protect the juft rights and effential interefts of thefe kingdoms.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this loyal and affectionate address. Nothing shall be wanting on my part that may tend to the effectual support of the just rights of my crown and the true interests of my people. These great and important considerations shall ever be the immediate object of my attention.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, March 17, 1778.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, return our humble thanks to your Majesty for the communication of the paper presented to the Lord Viscount Weymouth, by the order of the French King; and for acquainting us that, in consequence of this offensive declaration, your Majesty has thought proper to order your ambassador to withdraw from the court of France: and we beg leave to assure your Majesty that it is with the utmost difficulty we can restrain the strongest expressions of the resentment and indignation which we feel for this unjust and unprovoked aggression on the honour of your Majesty's crown, and the essential interests of your kingdoms, contrary to the law of nations, and injurious to the rights and possessions of every sovereign power in Europe.

The good faith and uprightness of your Majesty's conduct towards foreign powers, and the sincerity of your intentions to preserve the general tranquillity, must be acknowledged by all the world: and your Majesty cannot be considered as responsible for the disturbance of this tranquillity, if you should find yourself called upon to resist the enterprizes of that restless and dangerous spirit of ambition and aggrandizement which has so often invaded the rights and threatened the liberties of Europe.

We should be wanting in our duty to your Majesty, to our constituents, and to ourselves, if we did not give your Majesty the strongest assurances of our most zealous assistance and support: and we have the firmest confidence that in every demonstration of loyalty to your Majesty and of love of their country, your faithful subjects will vie with each other; and that no considerations will divert or deter them from standing forth in the public defence, and from sustaining, with a steady perse-

perseverance, any extraordinary burthens and expences, which shall be found necessary for enabling your Majesty to vindicate the honour of your crown, and to protect the just rights and essential interests of these kingdoms.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate address: I make no doubt that, assisted by the advice of my Parliament, and supported by the spirit of my people, I shall, under the divine Providence, be enabled to repel every insult on the honour of my crown, to maintain the rights of my subjects, and to defend all my dominions.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, March 23, 1778.

GEORGE REX.

THE French King having concluded a treaty of amity and commerce with his Majesty's revolted subjects in North America, and his Majesty having received advice that the warlike preparations in France become every day more considerable, his Majesty thinks that in this critical conjuncture he should not act consistently with the care and concern which he always feels for his faithful people, if he omitted any means in his power that may contribute to their defence: therefore, in pursuance of the acts of Parliament, enabling his Majesty to call out and assemble the militia, in the cases therein mentioned, his Majesty has, thought it right to make this communication to the House of Commons, to the end that his Majesty may, if he shall think proper, cause the militia to be drawn out and embodied, and to march as occasion shall require.

G. R.

Manifesto, displaying the Motives and Conduct of his most Christian Majesty towards England.

WHEN the Sovereign Disposer of events called his Majesty to the throne, France enjoyed the most profound peace. The first concern of his Majesty was to signify to all the powers of Europe his sincere desire, that the blessings of peace might be perpetuated to his kingdom. This gracious

disposition of his Majesty was generally applauded; the King of England in particular testified his satisfaction, and gave his Majesty the most expressive assurances of sincere friendship. Such a reciprocity of sentiment justified his Majesty in believing that the Court of London was at last disposed to adopt a mode of conduct more equitable and friendly than that which had been adopted since the conclusion of the peace of 1763, and that a final stop would be put to those various acts of tyranny which his subjects had in every quarter of the globe experienced on the part of England, from the æra above mentioned. His Majesty persuaded himself that he could still place the greater reliance on the King of England's protestations, as the primordial seed of the American revolution began to unfold itself in a manner highly alarming to the interest of Great Britain.

But the Court of London, vainly imputing that to fear or feebleness, which was only the natural effect of his Majesty's pacific disposition, strictly adhered to her customary system, and continued every harassing act of violence against the commerce and the navigation of his Majesty's subjects. His Majesty represented these outrages to the King of England with the utmost candour, and judging of his sentiments by his own, his Majesty had the greatest confidence that the grievances would be no sooner made known to the King of England than he would redress them. Nay, further, his Majesty being thoroughly acquainted with the embarrassment which the affairs of North America had occasioned the Court of London, charitably forbore to increase that embarrassment, by insisting too hastily on those reparations of injuries which the English ministers had never ceased to promise, nor ever failed to evade.

Such was the position of affairs between the two courts, when the measures of the Court of London compelled the English colonists to have recourse to arms to preserve their rights, their privileges, and their liberty. The whole world knows the æra when this brilliant event shone forth; the multiplied and unsuccessful efforts made by the Americans to be reinstated in the bosom of their mother country, the disdainful manner in which they were spurned by England, and, finally, the act of Independence, which was at length, and could not but have been the necessary result of this treatment.

The war in which the United States of North America found themselves involved, with regard to England, necessarily compelled them to explore the means of forming connections with the other powers of Europe, and of opening a direct commerce with them. His Majesty would have neg-

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lected the moſt eſſential intereſts of his kingdom, were he to have refuſed the Americans admiſſion into his ports, or that participation of commercial advantages which is enjoyed by every other nation.

This conduct, ſo much the reſult of juſtice and of wiſdom, was adopted by far the greater part of the commercial ſtates of Europe; yet it gave occaſion to the Court of London to prefer her repreſentations, and give vent to all the bitterneſs of complaint. She imagined, no doubt, that ſhe had but to employ her uſual ſtyle of haughtineſs and ambition, to obtain of France an unbounded deference to her will. But, to the moſt unreaſonable propoſitions, and the moſt intemperate meaſures, his Majeſty oppoſed nothing but the calmneſs of juſtice and the moderation of reaſon. His Majeſty gave the King of England plainly to underſtand that he neither was, nor did he pretend to be a judge of the diſputes with his colonies; much leſs would it become his Majeſty to avenge his quarrel: that in conſequence his Majeſty was under no obligation to treat the Americans as rebels, to exclude them from his ports, and to prohibit them from all commercial intercourſe with his ſubjects. Notwithſtanding, his Majeſty was very ready to ſhackle, as much as depended on him, the exportation of arms and military ſtores; and gave the moſt poſitive aſſurance, not only that he would not protect this ſpecies of commerce, but that he would alſo allow England free permiſſion to ſtop thoſe of his ſubjects who ſhould be detected in carrying on ſuch illicit traffic, obſerving only the faith of treaties and the laws and the uſages of the ſea. His Majeſty went ſtill further: he was ſcrupulouſly exact in obſerving every commercial ſtipulation in the treaty of Utrecht, although it was daily violated by the Court of London, and England, at the very time, had refuſed to ratify it in all its parts. As a conſequence of the amicable part thus taken by his Majeſty, he interdicted the American privateers from arming in his ports; he would neither ſuffer them to ſell their prizes, nor to remain one moment longer in the ports of France, than was conſiſtent with the ſtipulations of the above treaty. His Majeſty ſtrictly enjoined his ſubjects not to purchaſe ſuch prizes; and, in caſe of diſobedience, they were threatened with confiſcation. Theſe acts, on the part of his Majeſty, had the deſired effect: but all theſe acts, diſtinguiſhed as well by their condeſcenſion as by their ſtrict adherence to the ſpirit and letter of a treaty which his Majeſty (had he been ſo diſpoſed) might have conſidered as non-exiſting; all theſe acts were far from ſatisfying the Court of London. That court affected to conſider his Majeſty as reſponſible for all tranſgreſſions, although the King of England,

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notwithstanding a solemn act of Parliament, could not himself prevent his own merchants from furnishing the North-American colonies with merchandize, and even military stores.

It is easy to conceive how the refusal of yielding to the assuming demands and arbitrary pretensions of England would mortify the self-sufficiency of that power, and revive its ancient animosity to France. She was the more irritated, from her having begun to experience some checks in America, which prognosticated to her the irrevocable separation of her colonies; and from foreseeing the inevitable calamities and losses following such a separation, and observing France profiting by that commerce, which she, with an inconsiderate hand, had thrown away, and adopting every means to render her flag respectable.

These are the combined causes which have increased the despair of the Court of London, and have led her to cover the seas with her privateers, furnished with letters of marque conceived in the most offensive terms; to violate without scruple the faith of treaties; to harass, under the most frivolous and absurd pretences, the trade and navigation of his Majesty's subjects; to assume to herself a tyrannical empire of the sea; to prescribe unknown and inadmissible laws and regulations; to insult, on many occasions, his Majesty's flag; in short, to infringe on his territories, as well in Europe as in America, in the most marked and characteristic style of insult.

If his Majesty had been less attentive to the sacred rights of humanity; if he had been more prodigal of the blood of his subjects; in short, if, instead of following the benevolent impulse of his nature, he had sought to avenge wounded honour, he could not have hesitated a moment to make use of reprisals, and to repel those insults which had been offered to his dignity by the force of his arms. But his Majesty stifled even his just resentments. He was desirous that the measure of his goodness might overflow, because he still retained such an opinion of his enemies as to expect they would yield that to moderation and amicable adjustment on his part which their own interests required of them.

It was these considerations which moved his Majesty to detail the whole of his complaints to the Court of London: this detail was accompanied with the most serious representations, his Majesty being desirous that the King of England should not be left in any uncertainty, as to his Majesty's actual determination to maintain his own dignity inviolate; to protect the rights and interests of his subjects, and to render his flag respectable. But the Court of London affected to observe an offensive silence on every grievance represented by his Majesty's

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ambaſſador; and when it was determined to vouchſafe an anſwer, it was an eaſy matter to deny the beſt authenticated facts; to advance principles contrary to the law of nations; to poſitive treaties; to marine uſage; and to encourage judgments without juſtice, and confiſcations without mercy, not leaving the injured even the means of appeal. At the ſame time that the Court of London put the moderation and forbearance of the King to the ſevereſt trial, in the ports of England there were preparations making and armaments equipping, which could not have America for their object; the deſign was too determinate to be miſtaken. His Majeſty, therefore, found it indiſpenſable to make ſuch diſpoſitions on his part as might be ſufficient to prevent the evil deſigns of his enemy, at the ſame time provide againſt depredations and inſults ſimilar to thoſe committed in 1755.

In this ſtate of things, his Majeſty, who had hitherto rejected the overtures of the United States of North America, (and that in contradiction to his moſt preſſing intereſts) now perceived that he had not a moment to loſe in concluding a treaty with them. Their independence had been declared and eſtabliſhed; England herſelf had in ſome ſort recognized that independence, by permitting the exiſtence of acts which carried every implication of ſovereignty. Had it been the intention of his Majeſty to deceive England, and to adopt meaſures for the purpoſe of covering the deception, he might have drawn the veil of ſecrecy over his engagements with his now allies; but the principles of juſtice, which have ever directed his Majeſty, and his ſincere deſire of preſerving peace, were deciſive inducements for him to purſue a conduct more generous and noble: his Majeſty conceived it a duty which he owed to himſelf to notify to the King of England the alliance he had formed with the United States. Nothing could be more ſimple or leſs offenſive than the reſcript delivered by his Majeſty's ambaſſador to the Britiſh miniſter. But the Council of St. James's were not of this opinion, and the King of England, after having firſt broken the peace, by recalling his ambaſſador, announced to his Parliament the declaration of his Majeſty, as an *act* of hoſtility, as a formal and premeditated aggreſſion. It would be inſulting credulity to ſuppoſe it can be believed that his Majeſty's recognition of the independence of the Thirteen United States of America, ſhould of itſelf have ſo irritated the King of England; that prince, without doubt, is well acquainted with all thoſe inſtances of the kind which not only the Britiſh annals but his own reign can furniſh. His reſentment is founded on another principle. The French treaty defeated and rendered uſeleſs the plan formed at

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London, for the sudden and precarious coalition that was about to be formed with America, and it baffled those secret projects adopted by his Britannic Majesty for that purpose. The real cause of that extreme animosity which the King of England has manifested, and which he has communicated to his Parliament, was the not being able to regain America, and turn her arms against France.

A conduct thus extraordinary, taught his Majesty what he had to expect from the Court of London; and, even had there remained a possibility of doubt, the immense preparations carrying on in the different ports of England with redoubled vigour, would have cleared up the doubt. Measures so manifestly directed against France, had the effect of imposing a law on his Majesty; he put himself in a condition to repel force by force; it was with this view that he hastened the equipment of his armaments, and that he dispatched a squadron to America under the command of Compte D'Estaing.

It is notorious that the armaments of France were in a condition to act offensively long before those of England were prepared. It was in his Majesty's power to have made a sudden and a most sensible impression on England. The king was avowedly engaged in the enterprize, and his plans were on the point of being carried into execution, when the bare whisper of peace stayed his hand, and suspended their execution. His Catholic Majesty imparted to the King the desire of the Court of London to avail herself of the mediation of Spain on the subject of conciliation. But his Catholic Majesty would not engage to act as mediator, without a previous assurance of his good offices being unequivocally accepted, in a case where he interposed without being made acquainted with the principal objects which were to serve as the basis of the negociation.

The King received the overture with a satisfaction proportioned to the wish he had uniformly expressed for the continuance of peace. Notwithstanding the King of Spain had professed it to be a matter of perfect indifference to him whether his mediation was accepted or not; and that, notwithstanding the overtures he made, he left the King, his nephew, entirely at liberty to act as he thought proper, yet his Majesty not only consented to the mediation, but he immediately countermanded the sailing of the Brest fleet, and he agreed to communicate his conditions of peace the moment that England should express in positive terms a desire of reconciliation, in which the United States of North America were to be comprehended, France by no means entertaining an idea of abandoning them; there could not surely be any thing more conformable to the ostensible wishes of the Court of London than this proposal.

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His Catholic Majesty lost not a moment to discuss the business with the King of England and his minister; but it was quickly discovered by the Court of Madrid that the English ministers were not sincere in their overtures for peace. The British minister talked expresly of his Majesty withdrawing the rescript which had been delivered by his ambassador on the 13th of March, 1778, as a preliminary and absolutely necessary step to reconciliation. Such an answer was injurious to Spain as well as to France; and it developed the hostile intentions of England, in the clearest point of view. Both monarchs viewed each other with amazement, and although his Majesty (always animated with the love of peace) left the Catholic King to act as he thought most prudent with respect to continuing his mediation, yet he judged it expedient to command his chargé des affaires at London, to observe a profound silence on the subject.

The hope of peace continued, however, to flatter the disposition of his Majesty, until the fleets commanded by the Admirals Keppel and Byron sailed out of port. Then it was that the veil of deception which had served to cover the real intentions of the Court of London, was rent asunder. It was no longer possible to place confidence in her insidious professions, nor could the aggressive design of England be any longer doubted. The face of things being thus changed, his Majesty found himself obliged to make an alteration in those measures he had previously adopted, for the security of his possessions, and to preserve the commerce of his subjects. The event will very soon demonstrate his Majesty's foresight to have been just.

The world can witness in what manner his Majesty's frigate the Belle Poule was attacked by an English frigate, within view of the coast of France, nor is it less notorious that two other frigates and a smaller vessel were surprized and carried into the ports of England. The departure of the fleet under Compte d'Orvilliers became absolutely necessary, to frustrate the designs of the enemies of his Majesty's crown, and to revenge the insults his flag had received. Providence disposed the triumph in favour of his Majesty's arms: Compte d'Orvilliers, after being attacked by the English fleet, forced them to retreat with considerable damage.

Since that period, hostilities have been continued without any declaration of war. The Court of London has not declared it, because she would be wanting in reasons to justify her conduct. Nor has she dared to accuse France publicly of being the aggressor, after three of his Majesty's vessels had been captured by the English fleet; and she felt that she would have ample

ample cause to blush, when the execution of those orders she had sent clandestinely to India should have opened the eyes of all Europe to the degree of reliance which can be placed in her pacific professions, and should have enabled every power in it to determine to which of the two powers, France or England, the term of *perfidious* most properly applies, an epithet which the English minister loses no opportunity of bestowing upon France.

As to the King, if he has deferred notifying to the world the multiplied injuries he has sustained from the Court of London; if he has delayed demonstrating the absolute necessity of his having recourse to arms; such a procrastination on the part of his Majesty has been owing to a fond hope that the English minister would at last recollect himself, and that either justice, or the more critical situation into which he has plunged his country, would have prevailed on him to change his conduct.

This hope appeared to have been the better founded, as the English minister was continually dispatching his emissaries to sound his Majesty's dispositions, at the very time the King of Spain was negociating with him for peace. His Majesty, so far from belying those sentiments which he had always expressed, listened with eagerness to the advice of the King, his uncle; and, to convince that prince of his persevering sincerity, his Majesty entrusted him, without reserve, with those very moderate conditions, on which his Majesty would most gladly have laid down his arms.

The Catholic King communicated to the Court of London the assurances he had received from his Majesty, and he urged that court to perfect the reconciliation which she had long so earnestly affected to desire. But the English minister, although constantly feigning a desire of peace, never returned an ingenuous answer to the King of Spain, but was perpetually insulting his Catholic Majesty with a tender of inadmissible propositions, quite foreign to the subject of dispute.

It was now clear, from the most indisputable evidence, that England did not wish for peace, and that she negociated for no other purpose but to gain time to make the necessary preparations for war. The King of Spain was perfectly sensible of this truth; nor was he less sensible how much his own dignity was committed, yet his heart anticipated the calamities of war, and he forgot his own wrongs in his anxious wish for peace. He even suggested a new plan of a cessation of arms for a term of years. This plan was perfectly agreeable to his Majesty, on condition that the United States of America should be comprized in the proposal, and that during the truce, they should be treated as independent. To render it more easy for the King of

of England to subscribe to this essential stipulation, his Majesty consented that he should either treat immediately with congress, or through the mediation of the King of Spain.

In consequence of these overtures, his Catholic Majesty dispatched his plan to the Court of London. Besides the time limited for the suspension of hostilities (during which the United States were to be considered as independent *de facto*) his Catholic Majesty took it on himself to propose, relative to America, that each party should have the possession of what they occupied at the time of signing the treaty of suspension, guaranteed to them. Such infinite pains did the King of Spain take to stop the effusion of human blood!

There is not a doubt but that these conditions must appear to every well judging person such as would have been accepted; they were, however, formally rejected by the Court of London, nor has that Court shewn any disposition to peace, unless on the absurd condition that his Majesty should abandon the Americans, and leave them to themselves.

After this afflicting declaration, the continuation of the war is become inevitable, and therefore his Majesty has invited the Catholic King to join him in virtue of their reciprocal engagements, to avenge their respective injuries, and to put an end to that tyrannical empire which England has usurped, and pretends to maintain upon the ocean.

This succinct exposure of the political views, and the progressive series of events which have occasioned the present rupture between the Courts of Versailles and London, will enable all Europe to draw a parallel between the conduct of his Majesty, and that of the King of England, to render justice to the purity and directness of intention, which during the whole of the dispute has characterised his Majesty, and finally, all Europe will be enabled by this publication to judge, which of the two sovereigns is the real author of the war which afflicts their kingdoms, and which of the two potentates will be answerable at the tribunal of Heaven, for that train of calamities occasioned by the war!

The justifying Memorial of the King of Great Britain, in Answer to the Exposition, &c. of the Court of France.

THE ambition of a power, ever a foe to public tranquillity, hath at length obliged the King of Great Britain to employ the strength which God and his people have confided to him, in a just and lawful war.—It is in vain that France endeavours

deavours to justify, or rather disguise, in the eyes of Europe, by her last manifesto, the politics which seem to be dictated by pride and cunning, but which cannot be reconciled with the truth of facts, and the rights of nations. That equity, moderation, and love of peace, which have always regulated the steps of the King, now engage him to submit the conduct of himself and his enemies to the judgment of a free and respectable tribunal, which will pronounce, without fear or flattery, the decree of Europe to the present age, and to posterity — This tribunal, composed of the understanding and disinterested men of all nations, will never regard professions; and it is from the actions of princes, that they ought to judge of the motives of their conduct, and the sentiments of their hearts.

When the King ascended the throne, he enjoyed the success of his arms in the four quarters of the world! His moderation re-established public tranquillity, at the same time that he supported with firmness the glory of his crown, and procured the most solid advantages to his people. Experience had taught him how bitter and afflicting even the fruits of victory are; and how much wars, whether happy or unsuccessful, exhaust a people without aggrandizing their princes. His actions proved to the world, that he knew the value of peace, and it was at least to be presumed, that that reason which had enlightened him to discern the inevitable calamities of war, and the dangerous vanity of conquest, inspired him with the sincere and unshaken resolution of maintaining the public repose, of which he was himself the author and guarantee. These principles were the foundations of that conduct which his Majesty held invariably for fifteen years which followed the peace concluded at Paris in 1763; that happy æra of quiet and happiness will be preserved for a long time, by the recollection, perhaps the regret, of the European nations. The instructions of the King to all his ambassadors were impressed with the marks of his character and maxims.

He recommended it to them, as the most important part of their duty, to listen, with the most scrupulous attention to the complaints and representations of the powers, his neighbours or allies; to stifle in the beginning, all grounds of quarrel that might embitter or alienate the minds of men; to turn aside the scourge of war by every expedient compatible with the dignity of the sovereign of a respectable nation; and to inspire all people with a just confidence on the political system of a court which detested war without fearing it; which employed no other means than those of reason and sincerity, and which had no other object, but the general tranquillity. In the midst of this calm, the first sparks of discord were kindled

kindled in America. The intrigues of a few bold and criminal leaders, who abused the credulous simplicity of their countrymen, insensibly seduced the greatest part of the English colonies to raise the standard of revolt against the mother country; to which they were indebted for their existence and their happiness. The court of Versailles easily forgot the faith of treaties, the duties of allies, and the right of sovereigns, to endeavour to profit of circumstances, which appeared favourable to its ambitious designs. It did not blush to debase its dignity by the secret connections it formed with rebellious subjects; and after having exhausted all the shameful resources of perfidy and dissimulation, it dared to avow, in the face of Europe (full of indignation at its conduct) the solemn treaty which the ministers of the most Christian King had signed with the dark agents of the English colonies, who founded their pretended independence on nothing but the daringness of their revolt. The offensive declaration which the Marquis de Noailles was ordered to make to the Court of London, on the 13th of March, in the last year, authorized his Majesty to repel, by force of arms, the unheard of insult that was offered to the honour of his crown; and the King remembered, on that important occasion, what he owed to his subjects and himself. The same spirit of imposture and ambition continued to reign in the councils of France.—Spain, who has, more than once, repented having neglected her true interests, to follow blindly the destructive projects of the elder branch of the house of Bourbon, was engaged to change the part of mediator for that of enemy of Great Britain. The calamities of war are multiplied, but the Court of Versailles hath, hitherto, nothing to boast of the success of its military operations; and Europe knows well how to rate those naval victories, which exist no where but in the gazettes and manifestos of pretended conquerors.

Since war and peace impose on nations duties entirely different, and even opposite, it is indispensably necessary to distinguish, in reasoning, as well as in conduct, the two conditions: but in the last manifesto published by France, these two conditions are perpetually confounded: she pretends to justify her conduct in making the best, by turns, nay, almost at the same time, of those rights which an enemy only is permitted to claim, and of those maxims which regulate the obligations and procedure of national friendship. The finesse of the Court of Versailles, in blending incessantly two suppositions which have no connection, is the natural consequence of a false and treacherous policy, which cannot bear the light of

the day. The ſentiments and conduct of the King have nothing to fear from the moſt ſevere ſcrutiny; but, on the contrary, invites it to diſtinguiſh clearly what his enemies have confounded with ſo much artifice. Juſtice alone can ſpeak without fear, the language of reaſon and truth.

The full juſtification of his Majeſty, and the indelible condemnation of France, may be reduced to the proof of two ſimple, and almoſt ſelf-evident principles—Firſt, That a profound, permanent, and, on the part of England, a ſincere and true peace ſubſiſted between the two nations, when France formed connections with the revolted colonies, ſecret at firſt, but afterwards public and avowed.—Secondly, That according to the beſt acknowledged maxims of the rights of nations, and even according to the tenor of treaties actually ſubſiſting between the two crowns, theſe connections might be regarded as an infraction of the peace; and the public avowal of theſe connections was equivalent to a declaration of war on the part of the moſt Chriſtian King.—This is, perhaps, the firſt time that a reſpectable nation had an occaſion to prove two truths ſo inconteſtable, the memory of which is already acknowledged by every diſintereſted and unprejudiced perſon.

"When Providence called the King to the throne, France enjoyed a moſt profound peace." Theſe are the expreſſions of the laſt manifeſto of the Court of Verſailles, which eaſily remember the ſolemn aſſurances of a ſincere friendſhip, and the moſt pacific diſpoſition which it received from his Britannic Majeſty, and which were often renewed by the intervention of ambaſſadors to the two courts, during four years, until the fatal and deciſive moment of the declaration of the Marquis de Noailles. The queſtion, then, is to prove, that during this happy time of general tranquillity, England concealed a ſecret war under the appearance of peace; and that her unjuſt and arbitrary procedure was carried to ſuch a pitch, as to render lawful, on the part of France, the boldeſt ſteps, which are permiſſible only in a declared enemy. To attain this object, griefs clearly articulated and ſolidly eſtabliſhed, ſhould be produced before the tribunal of Europe. This great tribunal will require formal, and, perhaps, repeated proofs of the injury, of the complaint, of a refuſal of competent ſatisfaction, and of a proteſtation of the injured party, that it held itſelf highly offended by ſuch refuſal, and that it ſhould look upon itſelf hereafter as releaſed from the duties of friendſhip and the bonds of treaties. Thoſe nations which reſpect the ſanctity of oaths, and the advantages of peace, are the floweſt to catch hold of opportunities which ſeem to diſcharge them from a

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facred and folemn obligation; and it is but with trembling that they dare to renounce the friendfhip of powers, from which they have long borne injuftice and infult.

But the Court of Verfailles hath been either ignorant of thefe wife and falutary principles, or it hath defpifed them; and, inftead of fixing the foundations of a juft and legitimate war, it hath contented itfelf to fpread through every page of its manifefto, general and vague complaints, expreffed with exaggerations in a metaphorical ftyle. It goes above threefcore years back to accufe England of her want of care to ratify fome commercial regulations, fome articles of the treaty of Utrecht. It prefumes to reproach the King's minifters with ufing the language of haughtinefs and ambition without condefcending to the duty of proving imputations as unlikely as they are odious. The free fuppofitions of the ambition and infincerity of the Court of London, are confeffedly healed up, as if they feared to be difcriminated, the pretended infults which the commerce, the flag, and the territories of France, have undergone, are infinuated in a very obfcure manner, and at laft there efcapes an avowal of the engagement which the moft Chriftian King had already made with Spain, "to avenge their refpective wrongs, and put bounds to the tyrannical empire which England had ufurped, and pretended to maintain over every fea."

It is difficult to encounter phantoms, or to anfwer clofely and precifely to the language of declamation. The juft confidence of the King would doubtlefs defire to fubmit to the ftricteft examination, thofe vague complaints, thofe pretended wrongs, upon which the Court of Verfailles has fo prudently avoided to explain itfelf, with that clearnefs and particularity which alone could fupport its reafons, and excufe its conduct. During a fifteen years peace, the interefts of two powerful, and perhaps jealous nations, which approached in fo many places in the old and new world, would inevitably furnifh fubjects of complaint and difcuffion, which a reciprocal moderation would always know how to fettle, but which are but too eafily fharpened and impoifoned by the real hatred, or affected fufpicions, of a fecret and ambitious enemy: and the troubles of America were but too apt to multiply the hopes, the pretexts, and the unjuft pretenfions of France. Neverthelefs, fuch has been the ever uniform, and ever peaceable conduct of the King and his minifters, that it hath often filenced his enemies; and if it may be permitted to difcover the true fenfe of thefe indefinite and equivocal accufations, whofe ftudied obfcurity betrays the features to fhame and artifice—if it may be permitted of contefted objects which have no exiftence, it may

be affirmed with the boldness of truth, that several of these pretended injuries are announced for the first time in a declaration of war, without having been proposed to the Court of London, at a time when they might have been considered with the serious and favourable attention of friendship. In respect to those complaints which the ambassadors of his most Christian Majesty have communicated from time to time to the King's ministers, it would be easy to give, or rather to repeat satisfactory answers, which would demonstrate, to the eyes of France herself, the King's moderation, his love of justice, and the sincerity of his disposition to preserve the general tranquillity of Europe. Those complaints, which the Court of Versailles may dispense with recollecting, were very rarely founded in truth and reason; and it was most generally found that those persons in Europe, America, or on the seas, from whom an ill-founded and suspected intelligence was derived, had not been afraid to abuse the confidence of France, the better to serve her secret intentions.

If some facts, which France inhanced as the ground of her complaints, were built on a less brittle foundation, the King's ministers cleared them without delay, by a most clear and entire justification of the motives and rights of their sovereign, who might punish a contraband trade on his coast, without wounding the public repose; and to whom the law of nations gave a lawful right to seize all vessels which carried arms or warlike stores to his enemies, or rebellious subjects. The courts of justice were always open to individuals of all nations, and those must be very ignorant of the British constitution, who suppose that the royal authority was capable to shut out the means of an appeal. In the vast and extended theatre of the operations of a naval war, the most active vigilance, and the most steady authority, are unable to discover or suppress every disorder; but every time that the Court of Versailles was able to establish the truth of any real injuries that its subjects had sustained, without the knowledge or approbation of the King, his Majesty gave the most speedy and effectual orders to stop an abuse which injured his own dignity, as well as the interest of his neighbours, who had been involved in the calamities of war. The object and importance of this war will suffice to shew all Europe, on what principles the political proceedings of England ought to be regulated. Is it likely, that whilst England employed her forces to bring the revolted colonies of America back to their duty, she should have chosen that moment to irritate the most respectable powers of Europe, by the injustice and violence of her conduct? Equity hath always governed the sentiments and conduct of the King, but on this

this important occasion, his very prudence is a warrant for his sincerity and moderation.

But to establish clearly the pacific system that subsists between the two nations, nothing more is wanting than to appeal to the very testimony of the Court of Versailles. At the very time in which it doth not blush to place all these pretended infractions of the public peace, which would have engaged a prince less sparing of his subjects blood, to make, without hesitation, reprisals, and to repel insult by force of arms, the minister of the most Christian King spoke the language of confidence and friendship. Instead of denouncing any design of vengeance, with that haughty tone which at least spares injustice from the reproaches of perfidy and dissimulation, the Court of Versailles concealed the most treacherous conduct under the smoothest professions. But those very professions serve, at present, to belie its declaration, and to call to mind those sentiments which ought to have regulated its conduct. If the Court of Versailles is unwilling to be accused of a dissimulation unworthy of its grandeur, it will be forced to acknowledge, that till the moment that it dictated to the Marquis de Noailles, that declaration which has been received as the signal of war, it did not know any grounds of complaint, sufficiently real or important, to authorize a violation of the obligations of peace, and the faith of treaties, to which it had sworn in the face of heaven and earth; and to disengage from that amity, to which, to the last moment, it had repeated the most solemn and lively assurances.

When an adversary is incapable of justifying his violence in the public opinion, or even in his own eyes, by the injuries which he pretends to have received, he has recourse to the chimerical danger to which his patience might have been exposed; and in the place of facts, of which he is totally unprovided, he endeavours to substitute a vain picture, which hath existence only in his own imagination, perhaps his own heart. The minister of the most Christian King, who seems to have felt the weakness of the means they were forced to employ, yet make impotent efforts to support those means by the most odious and unaccountable suspicions. "The Court of London made preparations in its ports, and armaments, which could not have America for their object. Their intention was consequently too well determined for the King to mistake them, and from thence it became their duty to make such dispositions, as were capable of preventing the evil designs of his enemy, &c. In this state of affairs, the King found he had not a moment to lose." This is the language of France; now we will shew that of *truth*.

During the diſputes which had ariſen between Great Britain and her colonies, the Court of Verſailles applied itſelf, with the moſt lively and determined ardor, to the augmentation of her marine. The King did not "pretend to reign as a tyrant of the ſea," but knows, that at all times, maritime forces have conſtituted the glory and ſafety of his dominions, and that they have often protected the liberty of Europe, againſt the ambitious ſtate which hath ſo long laboured to ſubdue it.

A ſenſe of his dignity, and a juſt knowledge of his duty and his intereſt, engaged his Majeſty to watch, with an attentive eye, over the proceedings of France, whoſe dangerous policy, without a motive, and without an enemy, precipitated the building and arming of ſhips in all her ports, and which employed a conſiderable part of her revenues in the expence of thoſe military preparations, the neceſſity or object of which it was impoſſible to declare. In that conjuncture the King could not avoid following the counſel of his prudence, and the example of his neighbours. The ſucceſſive augmentation of their marine ſerved as a rule for his, and without wounding the reſpect that he owed to friendly powers, his Majeſty declared publicly to his Parliament, that England ſhould be in a reſpectable ſtate of defence. The naval force which he had ſo carefully ſtrengthened, was deſigned only to maintain the general tranquillity of Europe, and whilſt the dictates of his own conſcience diſpoſed the King to give credit to the profeſſions of the Court of Verſailles, he prepared to have nothing to fear from the perfidious deſigns of its ambition. France now dares to ſuppoſe that the King, "inſtead of confining himſelf within the limits of a lawful defence, gave himſelf up to a hope of conqueſt, and that the reconciliation of Great Britain with her colonies, announced, on her part, a fixed project of reallying them with her crown, to arm them againſt France." Since, then that the Court of Verſailles cannot excuſe its procedure, but in favour of a ſuppoſition ſo deſtitute of truth and likelihood, the King hath a right to call upon that court, in the face of Europe, to produce a proof of an allegation as odious as bold, and to develope thoſe public operations, or ſecret intrigues, that can authoriſe the ſuſpicions of France, that Great Britain, after a long and painful diſpute, offered peace to her ſubjects, with no other deſign than to undertake a freſh war againſt a reſpectable power, with which ſhe had preſerved all the appearances of friendſhip.

After having faithfully expoſed the frivolous motives and pretended wrongs of France, we can reflect, with a certainty, juſtified

justified by reason and by fact, on the first proposition, so simple and so important. That a peace subsisted between the two nations, and that France was bound by every obligation of friendship and treaty with the King, who had never failed in his legitimate engagement.

The first article of the treaty signed at Paris, the 10th of February 1763, between his Britannic, most Christian, Catholic, and most faithful Majesties, confirms in the most precise and solemn manner, the obligations which natural justice imposes on all nations which are in mutual friendship; but these obligations are specified and stipulated in that treaty by expressions as lively as they are just. After having comprised in a general form, all the States and subjects of the high contracting powers, they declared their resolution "not only never to permit any hostilities by land or sea, but even to procure reciprocally, on every occasion, all that can contribute to their mutual glory, interest, and advantages, without giving any succour or protection, directly or indirectly, to those who would do any prejudice to one or other of the high contracting parties." Such was the sacred engagement which France contracted with Great Britain; and it cannot be disguised, that such a promise ought to bind with greater strength and energy against the domestic rebels, than the foreign enemies of the two crowns. The revolt of the Americans put the fidelity of the Court of Versailles to a proof, and notwithstanding the frequent examples that Europe hath already seen of its little regard to the faith of treaties, its conduct in these circumstances astonished and enraged every nation which was not blindly devoted to the interests, and even to the caprices of France. If France had intended to fulfil her duty, it was impossible for her to have mistaken it; the spirit as well as the letter of treaty of Paris, imposed on her an obligation to bar their ports against the American vessels; to forbid her subjects to have any commerce with that rebellious people; and not to afford either succour or protection to the domestic enemies of a crown with which she had sworn a sincere and inviolable friendship. But experience had too well enlightened the King in regard to the political system of his antient adversaries, to suffer him to hope that they would conform exactly to those just and reasonable principles, which would have assured a general tranquillity.

As soon as the revolted colonies had completed their criminal enterprize by an open declaration of their pretended independence, they thought to form secret connections with the powers who were the least favourable to the interests of their mother country; and to draw from Europe those military aids,

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without which it would have been impoſſible for them to have ſupported the war they had undertaken. Their agents endeavoured to penetrate into, and ſettle the different ſtates of Europe, but it was only in France they found an aſylum, hopes, and aſſiſtance. It is beneath the King's dignity to inquire after the æra, or the nature of the correſpondence that they had the addreſs to contract with the miniſters of the Court of Verſailles, and of which the public effects were ſoon viſible in the general liberty, or rather unbounded licence of an illegitimate commerce. It is well known that the vigilance of the laws cannot always prevent artful illicit traders, who appear under a thouſand different forms, and whoſe avidity for gain makes them brave every danger, and elude every precaution: but the conduct of the French merchants, who furniſhed America not only with uſeful and neceſſary merchandize, but even with ſaltpetre, gunpowder, ammunition, arms, and artillery, loudly declared that they were aſſured not only of impunity, but even of the protection and favour of the miniſters of the Court of Verſailles.

An enterprize ſo vain and ſo difficult, as that of hiding from the eyes of Great Britain, and of all Europe, the proceedings of a commercial company, aſſociated for furniſhing the Americans with whatever could nouriſh and maintain the fire of a revolt, was not attempted. The informed public named the chief of the enterprize, whoſe houſe was eſtabliſhed at Paris; his correſpondents at Dunkirk, Nantz, and Bourdeaux, were equally known. The immenſe magazines which they formed, and which they repleniſhed every day, were laden in ſhips that they built or bought, and they ſcarcely diſſembled their objects, or the place of their deſtination. Theſe veſſels commonly took falſe clearances for the French iſlands in America, but the commodities which compoſed their cargo were ſufficient, before the time of their ſailing, to diſcover the fraud and the artifice. Theſe ſuſpicions were quickly confirmed by the courſe they held; and at the end of a few weeks, it was not ſurpriſing to hear they have fallen into the hands of the King's officers cruizing in the American ſeas, who took them even within ſight of the coaſts of the revolted colonies. This vigilance was but too well juſtified by the conduct of thoſe who had the luck or cunning to eſcape it; ſince they approached America only to deliver the rebels the arms and ammunition which they had taken on board for their ſervice. The only marks of theſe facts, which could be conſidered only as manifeſt breaches of the faith of treaties, multiplied continually, and the diligence of the King's ambaſſador to communicate his complaints and proofs to the Court of Verſailles, did not leave

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him the ſhameful and humiliating reſource of appearing ignorant of what was carried on, and daily repeated in the very heart of the country. He pointed out the names, number, and quality of the ſhips, that the commercial agents of America had fitted out in the ports of France, to carry to the rebels, arms, warlike ſtores, and even French officers, who had engaged in the ſervice of the revolted colonies. The dates, places and perſons were always ſpecified, with a preciſion that afforded the miniſters of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty the greateſt facility of being aſſured of theſe reports, and of ſtopping in time the progreſs of theſe illicit armaments. Amongſt a crowd of examples which accuſe the Court of Verſailles of want of attention to fulfil the conditions of peace, or rather its conſtant attention to nouriſh fear and diſcord, it is impoſſible to enumerate them all; it is very difficult to ſelect the moſt ſtriking objects. Nine large ſhips, fitted out and freighted by the Sieur de Beaumarchais, and his partners, in the month of January, 1777, are not confounded with the Amphitrite, who carried about the ſame time a great quantity of ammunition, and thirty French officers, who paſſed with impunity into the ſervice of the rebels. Every month, almoſt every day, furniſhed new ſubjects of complaint; and a ſhort memorial that Viſcount Stormont, the King's ambaſſador, communicated to the Count de Vergennes, in the month of November, in the ſame year, will give a juſt, but very imperfect idea of the wrongs which Britain had ſo often ſuſtained---"There is a ſixty-gun ſhip at Rochfort, and an Eaſt India ſhip pierced for ſixty guns, at L'Orient. Theſe two ſhips are deſtined for the ſervice of the rebels. They are laden with different merchandize, and freighted by Meſſrs. Chaumont, Holkin, and Sebatier.——The ſhip L'Heureux, ſailed from Marſeilles the 26th of September, under another name: ſhe goes ſtraight to New Hampſhire, though it is pretended ſhe is bound to the French iſlands. They have been permitted to take on board three thouſand muſkets, and 25,000 pounds of ſulphur, a merchandize as neceſſary to the Americans as uſeleſs to the iſland. This ſhip is commanded by M. L[illegible]di, a French officer of diſtinction, formerly Lieutenant to M. de L[illegible]anville. —L'Hippopotame, belonging to the Sieur Beaumarchais, will have on board four thouſand muſkets, and many warlike ſtores for the uſe of the rebels. There are about fifty French ſhips laden with ammunition for the uſe of the rebels, preparing to ſail to North America. They will go from Nantz, L'Orient, St. Malo, Havre, Bourdeaux, Bayonne, and other different ports. Theſe are the names of ſome of the perſons principally intereſted; M. Chaumont, M. Menton, and his partners, &c. &c.

In this kingdom, where the will of the prince meets with no obstacle, succours so considerable, so public, so long supported; in fine, so necessary to maintain the war in America, shew clearly enough the most secret intentions of the most Christian King's ministers. But they still carried further their forgetfulness or contempt of the most solemn engagements, and it was not without their permission that an underhand and dangerous war issued from the ports of France, under the deceitful mask of peace, and the pretended flag of the American colonies. The favourable reception that their agents found with the ministers of the Court of Versailles, quickly encouraged them to form and execute the audacious project of establishing a place of arms in the country, which had served them for an asylum. They had brought with them, or knew how to fabricate letters of marque, in the name of the American Congress, who had the impudence to usurp all the rights of sovereignty. The partnership, whose interested views easily embarked in all their designs, fitted out ships that they had either built or purchased. They armed them to cruize in the European seas, nay, even on the coasts of Great Britain. To save appearances, the captains of these corsairs hoisted the pretended American flag, but their crews were always composed of a great number of Frenchmen, who entered, with impunity, under the very eyes of their governors and the officers of the maritime provinces. A numerous swarm of these corsairs, animated by a sport of rapine, failed from the ports of France, and after cruising in the British seas, re-entered, or took shelter in the same ports. Thither they brought their prizes, and under a rude, weak artifice, which they sometimes vouchsafed to employ, the prizes were sold publicly and commodiously enough, in the sight of the royal officers, always disposed to protect the commerce of those traders, who violated the laws to conform to the French ministry. The corsairs enriched themselves with the spoils of the king's subjects; and after having profited of full liberty to repair their losses, provide for their wants, and procure all warlike stores, gunpowder, cannon, and rigging, which might serve for new enterprizes, they departed freely from the same ports to make new cruizes. The history of the Reprisal privateer may be cited from a crowd of examples, to set the unjust, but scarcely artificial conduct of the Court of Versailles in a clear light. This ship, which had brought Mr. Franklin, agent of the revolted colonies to Europe, was received, with two prizes she had taken in her passage. She remained in the port of Nantz, as long as she thought convenient; put twice to sea to plunder the king's subjects, and came quietly into L'Orient with the new prizes she had made.

Notwithstanding the strongest representation of the King's ambassador; notwithstanding the most solemn assurances of the French ministers, the captain of that corsair was permitted to stay at L'Orient as long as it was necessary to refit his ship, to provide sixty barrels of gunpowder, and to receive as many French seamen as chose to engage with him. Furnished with these reinforcements, the Reprisal sailed a third time from the ports of their new allies, and presently formed a little squadron of pirates, by the concerted junction of the Lexicon and Dolphin, two privateers; the first of which had already carried more than one prize into the river of Bourdeaux; and the other, fitted out at Nantz, and manned entirely by Frenchmen, had nothing American but the commander. These three ships, which so publicly enjoyed the protection of the Court of Versailles, in a short time afterwards took fifteen British ships, the greater part of which were brought into the ports of France, and secretly sold.—Such facts, which it would be easy to multiply, stand instead of reasonings and reproaches. The faith of treaties cannot avoid being called upon on this occasion; and it is not necessary to shew that an allied, or even a neutral power, can even permit war, without violating peace. The principle of the law of nations will, doubtless, refuse to the ambassador of the most respectable power, that privilege of arming privateers, which the Court of Versailles granted underhand, in the very bosom of France, to the agents of rebels. In the French islands, the public tranquillity was violated in a manner yet more audacious, and notwithstanding the change of the governor, the ports of Martinico served always as a shelter to corsairs who cruized under American colours, but manned by Frenchmen. Mr. Bingham, agent for the rebels, who enjoyed the favour and confidence of two successive governors of Martinico, directed the arming of those privateers, and the public sale of their prizes. Two merchant ships, the Lancashire Hero, and the Irish Gambier, which were taken by the Revenge, assures, that out of her crew, consisting of 125 men, there were but two Americans; and that the owner, who at the same time was proprietor of eleven other privateers, acknowledged himself to be an inhabitant of Martinico, where he was looked upon as the favourite, and the secret agent of the governor himself.

In the midst of all these acts of hostility, (which it is impossible to call by any other name) the Court of Versailles continued always to speak the language of peace and amity, and its ministers exhausted all the sources of artifice and dissimulation, to lull the just complaints of Great Britain, to deceive her just suspicions, and to stop the effects of her just resentment. From

the firſt æra of the American troubles, to the moment of a declaration of war by the Marquis de Noailles, the miniſters of the moſt Chriſtian King never ceaſed to renew the ſtrongeſt and moſt expreſſive proteſtations of their pacific diſpoſitions; and however the common conduct of the Court of Verſailles was adapted to inſpire a juſt doubt, yet his Majeſty's juſt heart furniſhed him with powerful motives to believe, that France had at length adopted a ſyſtem of moderation and peace, which would perpetuate the ſolid and reciprocal happineſs of the two nations. The miniſters of the Court of Verſailles endeavoured to excuſe the arrival and reſidence of the rebels agent by the ſtrongeſt aſſurances, that he found only a ſimple aſylum in France, without either diſtinction or encouragement.

The freedom of commerce, and the thirſt of gain, ſerve ſometimes as pretexts to cover the illegitimate deſigns on the ſubjects of France; and at a time when they vainly alledged the importance of the laws to prevent abuſes, which neighbouring ſtates know ſo well how to ſuppreſs, they condemned, with every appearance of ſincerity, the tranſportation of arms and ammunition, which ſhe permitted with impunity, for the ſervice of the rebels. To the firſt repreſentation of the King's ambaſſador upon the ſubject of the privateers, which were fitted out in the ports of France under American colours, the miniſters of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty replied, with expreſſions of ſurpriſe and indignation, and by a poſitive declaration, that attempts ſo contrary to the faith of treaties, and the public tranquillity, ſhould never be ſuffered. The train of events, of which a ſmall number hath been ſhewn, ſoon manifeſted the inconſtancy, or rather the falſehood of the Court of Verſailles; and the King's ambaſſador was ordered to repreſent to the French miniſters, the ſerious, but inevitable conſequences of their policy. He fulfilled his commiſſion with all the conſideration due to a reſpectable power, the preſervation of whoſe friendſhip was deſired, but with a friendſhip worthy of a ſovereign, and a nation little accuſtomed to do, or to ſuffer injuſtice. The Court of Verſailles was called upon to explain its conduct and its intentions, without delay or evaſion; and the King propoſed to it the alternative of peace or war. France choſe peace, in order to wound her enemy more ſurely and ſecretly, without having any thing to dread from her juſtice. She ſeverely condemned thoſe ſuccours and thoſe armaments, that the principles of public equity would not permit her to juſtify. She declared to the King's ambaſſador, that ſhe was reſolved to baniſh the American corſairs immediately from all the ports of France, never to return again; and that ſhe would take, in future, the moſt rigorous precautions to prevent the ſale of prizes taken

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from the ſubjects of Great Britain. The orders given to that effect aſtoniſhed the partizans of the rebels, and ſeemed to check the progreſs of the evil; but ſubjects of complaint ſprung up again daily; and the manner in which theſe orders were firſt eluded, then violated, and at length entirely forgotten, by the merchants, privateers, nay, even the royal officers, were not excuſeable by the proteſtations of friendſhip with which the Court of Verſailles accompanied thoſe infractions of peace until the very moment that the treaty of alliance, which it had ſigned with the agents of the revolted American colonies, was announced by the French ambaſſador in London.

If a foreign enemy, acknowledged by all the powers of Europe had conquered the King's American dominions, and if France had confirmed by a ſolemn treaty, an act of violence, that had plundered in the midſt of a profound peace, a reſpectable neighbour, of whom ſhe ſtiled herſelf the friend and ally, all Europe would ſtand up againſt the injuſtice of a conduct which ſhamefully violated all that is moſt ſacred among men. The firſt diſcovery, the uninterrupted poſſeſſion of two hundred years, and the conſent of all nations, were ſufficient to aſcertain the rights of Great Britain over the lands of North America, and its ſovereignty over the people that had ſettled there with the permiſſion, and under the government of the King's predeceſſors. If even this people had dared to ſhake off the yoke of authority, or rather off the laws; if they had uſurped the provinces and prerogatives of their ſovereign; and if they had ſought the alliance of ſtrangers to ſupport their pretended independence; thoſe ſtrangers could not accept their alliance, ratify their uſurpations, and acknowledge their independence, without ſuppoſing that revolt hath more extenſive rights than thoſe of war; and without granting to rebellious ſubjects a lawful title to conqueſt, which they could not have made but in contempt of both law and juſtice. The ſecret enemies of peace, of Great Britain, and perhaps of France herſelf, had nevertheleſs the criminal dexterity to perſuade his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, that he could, without violating the faith of treaties, publicly declare, that he received the revolted ſubjects of a king, his neighbour and ally, into the number of his allies. The profeſſions of friendſhip which accompanied that declaration, which the Marquis de Noailles was ordered to make to the Court of London, only ſerve to aggravate the injury but by the inſult; and it was reſerved for France to boaſt of pacific diſpoſitions in the very inſtant that her ambition inſtigated her to execute and avow an act of perfidy, unexampled in the hiſtory of nations. Yet, ſuch as the Court of Verſailles dares allow itſelf to uſe. "Yet it would be

wrong to believe that the acknowledgment that the King has made of the independence of the thirteen United States of North America, is what has enraged the King of England: that prince is, without doubt, not ignorant of all the examples of the like kind that the British annals, even of his own reign, do furnish." But these pretended examples do not exist. The King never acknowledged the independence of a people, who had shaken off the yoke of their lawful prince; it is doubtless very afflicting, that the ministers of his most Christian Majesty have cheated the piety of their sovereign, to cover, with so respectable a name, assertions without any foundation or likelihood, which are contradicted by the memory of all Europe.

At the commencement of the disputes which arose between Great Britain and her colonies, the Court of Versailles declared, that it did not pretend to be a judge of the quarrel, and its ignorance of the principles of the British constitution, as well as the privileges and obligations of the colonies, ought to have engaged it to persist always in such a wise and modest declaration, that would have spared it the shame of transcribing the manifestos of the American congress, and of pronouncing now, "That the proceedings of the Court of London had compelled its antient colonies to have recourse to arms for the maintenance of their rights, their privileges, and their liberty." These vain pretensions have been already refuted in the most convincing manner, and the rights of Great Britain over that revolted people, her benefactions, and her long patience, have been already proved by reason and by facts. It is sufficient here to remark that France cannot take any advantage of the injustice with right, and in fact is the object of dispute. And the King's dignity will not permit him to accept those proposals, which, from the very beginning of a negociation, grants all that can satisfy the ambition of the rebellious Americans, whilst they exact from his Majesty, without any stipulation in his favour, that he should desist for a long or indefinite term, from his most lawful pretensions. It is true, the Court of Versailles vouchsafed to consent, that the Court of London might treat with the Congress, either directly, or by the intervention of the King of Spain. His Majesty certainly will not so much demean himself as to complain of that insolence, which seems to grant him, as a favour, the permission of treating directly with his rebellious subjects. But the Americans themselves are not blinded by passion and prejudice, they will see clearly in the conduct of France, that their new allies will soon become their tyrants, and that that pretended independence, purchased at the price of so much misery and blood, will be soon subjected to the despotic will of a foreign court.

If France could verify that eagerneſs which ſhe attributes to the Court of London, to ſeek the mediation of Spain, a like eagerneſs would ſerve to prove the King's juſt confidence in the goodneſs of his cauſe, and his eſteem for a generous nation which hath always deſpiſed fraud and perfidy. But the Court of London was obliged to own, that the mediation was offered to it by the miniſters of the Catholic King, and it claims no other merit than that of having ſhown, on all occaſions, a lively and ſincere inclination to deliver its ſubjects, nay even its enemies, from the ſcourge of war. The conduct of the Court of Madrid, during that negociation, ſoon ſhewed the King that a mediator, who forgets his own deareſt intereſts, to give himſelf up to the ambition, or reſentment of a foreign power, muſt be incapable of propoſing a ſafe or honourable accommodation. Experience confirmed theſe ſuſpicions; the unjuſt and inadmiſſible ſcheme juſt mentioned, was the ſole fruit of this mediation. In the ſame inſtant that the miniſters of the Catholic King offered, with the moſt diſintereſted profeſſions, his capital, his good offices, his guaranty, to facilitate the concluſion of the treaty, they ſuffered to appear from the bottom of obſcurity new ſubjects for diſcuſſing, particularly relative to Spain, but upon which they always refuſed to explain themſelves. His Majeſty's refuſal to accede to the *ultimatum* of the Court of Madrid was accompanied with all convenient precautions and reſpect: and, unleſs that court will arrogate to itſelf a right to dictate conditions of peace to an independent and reſpectable neighbour, there was nothing paſſed in that conjuncture, which ought to have altered the harmony of the two crowns. But the offenſive meaſures of Spain, which ſhe could never cloath with the faireſt appearances of equity, will ſoon ſhow that ſhe had already taken her reſolutions; had been inſtigated by the French miniſtry, who had only retarded the declaration of the Court of Madrid, from the hope of giving a mortal blow to the honour and intereſt of Great Britain, under the maſk of friendſhip.

Such are the unjuſt and ambitious enemies, who have deſpiſed the faith of treaties to violate the public tranquillity, and againſt whom the King now defends the rights of his crown and people. The event is yet in the hands of the Almighty; but his Majeſty, who relies upon the Divine protection, with a firm but humble aſſurance, is perſuaded that the wiſhes of Europe will ſupport the juſtice of his cauſe, and applaud the ſucceſs of his arms, which have no other object than to eſtabliſh the repoſe of nations on a ſolid and unſhaken baſis.

But France herſelf appears to feel the weakneſs, the danger, and the indecency of theſe pretenſions; when in the declaration of the Marquis de Noailles, as well as in her laſt manifeſto,

festo, she quits her hold on the right of independence; she is content to maintain, that the revolted colonies enjoy, *in fact*, that independence they have bestowed on themselves; that even England herself, in some sort acknowledges it, in suffering acts of sovereignty to subsist; and that therefore, France, without any violation of peace, might conclude a treaty of friendship and commerce with the United States of North America.— Let us see in what manner Great Britain had acknowledged that independence, equally imaginary in right, as in fact. Two years had not yet elapsed from the day in which the rebels declared their criminal resolution of shaking off the yoke of their mother country; and that time had been occupied by the events of a bloody and obstinate war. Success had hung in suspence, but the King's army, which possessed the most important maritime towns, continue always to menace the interior provinces. The English flag reigned over all the American seas, and the re-establishment of a lawful dependence was fixed as the indispensable condition of the peace which Great Britain offered to her revolted subjects, whose rights, privileges, nay even whose prejudices, she respected. The Court of Versailles, which announced with so much openness and simplicity the treaty signed with the pretended States of America, which it found in an independent situation, had alone contributed, by its clandestine succours, to foment the fire of revolt; and it was the dread of peace that engaged France to employ the rumour of that alliance, as the most effectual means to inflame the minds of the people who began already to open their eyes upon the unfortunate consequences of the revolt, the tyranny of their new leaders, and the paternal disposition of their lawful sovereign.

Under such circumstances it is impossible, without insulting in too gross a manner both truth and reason, to deny that the declaration of the Marquis of Noailles, of the 13th of March, 1778, ought to be received as a true declaration of war on the part of the most Christian King; and the assurances "that he had taken eventual measures, in concert with the United States of America, to maintain a freedom of commerce," which had so often excited the just complaints of Great Britain, authorised the King from that moment to rank France in the number of his enemies. The Court of Versailles could not avoid acknowledging that the King of England, after having "recalled his ambassador, denounced to his Parliament the measures taken by his Majesty, as an act of hostility, as a formal and premeditated aggression." Such was, indeed, the declaration which both honour and justice demanded from the King, and which he communicated, without delay, to the ministers

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of the different courts of Europe, to justify beforehand the effects of a lawful resentment From them it is useless to seek for orders that were sent to the East Indies, to remark the precise day when the necessities of England or France quitted their respective ports, or to scrutinize into the circumstances of the action with the Belle Poule, and the taking two other frigates, which were actually carried off in sight of the very coast of France. Hence the reproach made to the King of having so long suspended a formal declaration of war, vanishes of itself. These declarations are only the measures that nations have reciprocally agreed on, to avoid treachery and surprise, but the ceremonies which announce the terrible exchange of peace for war, the heralds declarations and manifestos are not always necessary, are not always alike. The declaration of the Marquis de Noailles was a signal of the public infraction of the peace. The King directly proclaimed to all nations that he accepted the war which France offered, the last proceedings of his Majesty were rather the spring of his prudence, than his justice, and Europe may now judge if the Court of London wanted means to "justify a declaration of war, and if she did not dare to accuse France, publicly, of being the aggressor."

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, April 8, 1778.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty being restrained by the laws now in being, from making provision for his younger children out of the hereditary revenues of the crown, and being desirous that competent provisions may be made for the honourable support and maintenance of his dearly-beloved sons, Prince Frederick, Bishop of Osnaburgh, Prince William Henry, Prince Edward, Prince Ernest Augustus, Prince Augustus Frederick, Prince Adolphus Frederick; and of his dearly beloved daughters, Princess Charlotte Augusta Matilda, Princess Augusta Sophia, Princess Elizabeth, Princess Mary, and Princess Sophia, and for the honourable maintenance and support of Prince William Frederick and Princess Sophia Matilda, the son and daughter of his dearly beloved brother, William Henry, Duke of Gloucester: his Majesty hopes that he shall be enabled by act of Parliament to grant an annuity of 60,000l. to the six princes, and an annuity of 30,000l. to the five princesses; and to grant an annuity of 8,000l. to Prince William Frederick, and an annuity of 4,000l. to Princess Sophia Matilda, the son and daughter of the Duke of Gloucester: the annuities to his Majesty's sons and daughters to take effect after his Majesty's

demise; and the annuities to the son and daughter of the Duke of Gloucester, to take effect after the death of the Duke of Gloucester; and his Majesty recommends the consideration thereof to this House. G. R.

Resolved by the House of Commons, May 11, 1778,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, that his Majesty will be graciously pleased to give directions that the remains of William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, be interred at the public charge; and that a monument be erected in the collegiate church of St. Peter's, Westminster, to the memory of that excellent statesman, with an inscription expressive of the public sense of so great and irreparable a loss; and to assure his Majesty that this House will make good the expences attending the same.

May 13, 1778.

Lord North reported to the House, that his Majesty had commanded him to acquaint this House that he will give directions as desired by the said address.

Resolved by the House of Commons, May 13, 1778,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return his Majesty the thanks of this House, for his most gracious answer to their address of Monday last, and to beseech his Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to bestow some signal and lasting mark of his royal favour on the family of the late William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, and to assure his Majesty that whatever he, from his princely goodness, shall think proper to be granted, this House, animated by the gratitude which they in common with the rest of his Majesty's subjects feel towards the memory of that upright and disinterested minister, and ambitious of giving a testimony of their approbation to that public virtue and spirited conduct which directed the councils of this country in the last glorious and successful war, will with the greatest cheerfulness make good to his Majesty.

May 14, 1778.

Lord North reported to the House, that his Majesty had been graciously pleased to say, that he will take the same into his consideration, and that he will do therein what shall appear to his Majesty to be most proper, agreeable to the desire of his faithful Commons.

Message

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, May 20, 1778.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty having taken into his consideration the address of this House, that he will be graciously pleased to bestow some signal and lasting mark of his royal favour on the family of the late William Pitt, Earl of Chatham; and being desirous to comply as speedily as possible with the request of his faithful Commons, has given directions for granting to the present Earl of Chatham, and to the heirs of the body of the late William Pitt, to whom the earldom of Chatham shall descend, an annuity of 4,000l. per annum, out of the civil-list revenue; but his Majesty not having it in his power to extend the effect of the said grant beyond the term of his own life, recommends it to the House to consider of a proper method of extending, securing, and annexing the same to the earldom of Chatham, in such manner as shall be thought most effectual for the benefit of the family of the said William Pitt, Earl of Chatham.

G. R.

Resolved by the House of Commons, May 26, 1778,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to represent to his Majesty, that this House having received information that upon the death of the late Earl of Chatham, there were several mortgages and other debts, incurred by him and then remaining a charge upon his estates, to a considerable amount; and being desirous to shew every testimony of their esteem and gratitude to the memory of the said William Pitt, Earl of Chatham, most humbly beseech his Majesty to advance the sum of 20,000l. towards paying off and discharging the said mortgages, and other debts; and to assure his Majesty that this House will make good the same in the next session of Parliament.

Substance of the Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majesty, June 3, 1778.

AT this time of public alarm, his faithful Commons were happy to find that his Majesty had called out the constitutional force of the kingdom for its defence; that they hoped his Majesty would in consequence be enabled to employ his other forces on essential services without the realm; that as they had liberally granted supplies to the fullest wishes of his servants, they trusted his Majesty would make such use of the money as

was moſt likely to preſerve the honour and dignity of his crown, and promote the welfare and intereſt of his dominions; finally, that they heartily wiſhed for a ſpeedy return of the Americans to their allegiance, and did not doubt but in due time his Majeſty would be able to chaſtiſe and repreſs the inſolence of his natural enemies.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, June 3, 1778.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AFTER ſo long and laborious an application to the public buſineſs, I think it proper at this ſeaſon of the year to give you ſome receſs. I come at the ſame time to return you my particular thanks for the zeal you have ſhewn in ſupporting the honour of my crown, and for your attention to the real intereſts of all my ſubjects, in the wiſe, juſt, and humane laws which have been the reſult of your deliberations, and which I hope will be attended with the moſt ſalutary effects in every part of the Britiſh empire.

My deſire to preſerve the tranquillity of Europe has been uniform and ſincere: I reflect with great ſatisfaction that I have made the faith of treaties and the law of nations the rule of my conduct, and that it has been my conſtant care to give no juſt cauſe of offence to any foreign power; let that power by whom this tranquillity ſhall be diſturbed, anſwer to their ſubjects and to the world for all the fatal conſequences of war.

The vigour and firmneſs of my Parliament have enabled me to be prepared for ſuch events and emergencies as may happen; and I truſt that the experienced valour and diſcipline of my fleets and armies, and the loyal and united ardour of the nation, armed and animated in the defence of every thing that is dear to them, will be able, under the protection of the divine Providence, to defeat all the enterprizes which the enemies of my crown may preſume to undertake, and convince them how dangerous it is to provoke the ſpirit and ſtrength of Great Britain.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I thank you for the cheerfulneſs with which you have granted the large and ample ſupplies for the ſervice of the current year, and for your care in raiſing them in a manner the moſt effectual and the leaſt burthenſome; and my warmeſt acknowledgments are due to you for the proviſion you have enabled me to make for the more honourable ſupport of my family.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your presence in your respective counties may at this time be of great public advantage. It is unnecessary for me to recommend to you to do your duty in your several stations: on my part, I have no other wish or object but to deserve the confidence of my Parliament, and the affections of my people.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the 14th day of July next, to be then here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the 14th day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 26, 1778.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE called you together in a conjuncture which demands your most serious attention.

In the time of profound peace, without pretence of provocation or colour of complaint, the Court of France hath not forborne to disturb the public tranquillity, in violation of the faith of treaties, and the general rights of sovereigns, at first by the clandestine supply of arms and other aid to my revolted subjects in North America, afterwards by avowing openly their support, and entering into formal engagements with the leaders of the rebellion, and at length by committing open hostilities and depredations on my faithful subjects, and by an actual invasion of my dominions in America and the West Indies.

It is, I trust, unnecessary for me to assure you, that the same care and concern for the happiness of my people, which induced me to endeavour to prevent the calamities of war, will make me desirous to see a restoration of the blessings of peace, whenever it can be effected with perfect honour, and with security to the rights of this country.

In the mean time, I have not neglected to take the proper and necessary measures for disappointing the malignant designs of our enemies, and also for making general reprisals; and although my efforts have not been attended with all the success which the justice of our cause and the vigour of our exertions seemed to promise, yet the extensive commerce of my subjects has been protected in most of its branches, and large reprisals have been made upon the injurious aggressors, by the vigilance

of my fleets, and by the active and enterprising spirit of my people.

The great armaments of other powers, however friendly and sincere their professions, however just and honourable their purposes, must necessarily engage our attention.

It would have afforded me very great satisfaction to have informed you, that the conciliatory measures planned by the wisdom and temper of Parliament, had taken the desired effect, and brought the troubles in North America to a happy conclusion.

In this situation of affairs, the national honour and security call so loudly upon us for the most active exertions, that I cannot doubt of your heartiest concurrence and support. From the vigour of your councils, and the conduct and intrepidity of my officers and forces by sea and land, I hope, under the blessing of God, to derive the means of vindicating and maintaining the honour of my crown and the interests of my people against all our enemies.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I will order the proper estimates for the service of the ensuing year to be laid before you: and when you consider the importance of the objects for which we are contending, you will, I doubt not, grant me such supplies as you shall judge necessary for the public service, and adequate to the present emergency.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have, according to the powers vested in me for that purpose, called forth the militia to assist in the interior defence of this country; and I have, with the greatest and truest satisfaction, been myself a witness of that public spirit, that steady ardour, and that love of their country, which animate and unite all ranks of my faithful subjects, and which cannot fail of making us safe at home and respected abroad.

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, Nov. 26, 1778.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We

We have the strongest sense of the importance of those objects which render the present conjuncture worthy of the most serious attention.

The disturbance of the public tranquillity by the Court of France, without pretence of provoca[illegible] ar of complaint, the clandestine assistance, the avowed support, the formal engagements which at different periods that court has not thought it inconsistent with its honour to afford to your Majesty's revolted subjects in North America, and to conclude with the leaders of rebellion, excite in our breasts a just abhorrence of the violation of every public principle which such a conduct manifests, and a determination to concur in every measure which may enable your Majesty to resent with effect the hostilities committed on your faithful subjects, and the actual invasion of your Majesty's dominions in America and the West Indies.

We beg leave to express our grateful sense of the tender concern for the happiness of your people, which has uniformly induced your Majesty to endeavour to prevent the calamities of war, and will make your Majesty desirous to see the return of peace, whenever it can be effected with perfect honour and security to the rights of this country.

At the same time we return your Majesty our dutiful thanks for your great care in taking the proper and necessary measures for disappointing the malignant designs of our enemies, and also for making general reprisals, and for the protection which has been derived from the vigilance of your Majesty's fleets to our extensive commerce, in most of its branches, while that of the enemy has materially suffered by the active and enterprizing spirit of our fellow subjects: and we hope, although your Majesty's efforts have not hitherto been attended with all the success which the justice of our cause and the vigour of our exertions seemed to promise, that consequences more adequate to both may result from the animated execution of firm and active councils, which the time requires, and with which the spirited perseverance of the British nation has so often surmounted the greatest difficulties.

It is with concern we learn that the conciliatory measures of Parliament have not yet had the good effect with your Majesty's revolted subjects, which was due to the wisdom and temper with which they were planned.

In this situation of affairs, fully sensible that the national honour and security loudly calls for the most active exertions, we will strenuously concur in supporting your Majesty, that, under the blessing of God, means may be derived from the conduct and intrepidity of your Majesty's officers and forces,

by ſea and land, and the yet undaunted ſpirit of the nation, to vindicate and maintain the honour of the crown, and the intereſts of the people of Great Britain.

We return your Majeſty our cordial acknowledgments for having called forth the militia, to aſſiſt in the interior defence of this country; and it is with joy and exultation we hear the gracious teſtimony your Majeſty is pleaſed to bear to the public ſpirit, the ſteady ardour, and love of their country which animate that national force, and unite all ranks of your Majeſty's faithful ſubjects, in giving [illegible] proofs to the world of a loyalty and zeal which muſt render us ſafe at home and reſpected abroad.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this loyal and dutiful addreſs. The zeal you ſhew for my honour and ſupport, and the firmneſs and vigour you manifeſt in the preſent conjuncture, cannot fail to produce the beſt effects; it muſt add confidence to my people, and encourage animated efforts to withſtand, oppoſe, and ſubdue every hoſtile attack upon the honour and intereſts of my kingdoms.

Addreſs of the Houſe of Commons to his Majeſty, Nov. 26, 1778.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We acknowledge with the utmoſt gratitude your Majeſty's paternal regard for the happineſs of your people, in your earneſt and uniform endeavours to preſerve the public tranquillity, and the good faith and uprightneſs of your Majeſty's conduct to all foreign powers: and we aſſure your Majeſty, that we have ſeen with concern and indignation, that tranquillity diſturbed by the Court of France, without the leaſt pretence of provocation, or colour of complaint; and we have, with the warmeſt emotions of reſentment, marked the progreſs of their malignant deſigns againſt this country, firſt, by a clandeſtine aid and ſupply of arms to your Majeſty's revolted ſubjects in North America; afterwards, in violation of the faith of treaties, and contrary to the rights and common intereſt of every ſovereign ſtate in Europe poſſeſſed of colonies and dependencies, by entering into and avowing formal engagements with the leaders

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of the rebellion; and at length, by committing open hoſtilities and depredations, and by actually invading part of your Majeſty's dominions in America and the Weſt Indies.

We cannot but feel concern and regret that the meaſures taken by your Majeſty for diſappointing theſe hoſtile and malignant deſigns, have not been attended with all the ſucceſs which the juſtice of the cauſe, and the vigour of the exertions ſeemed to promiſe; yet we have at the ſame time ſeen with great ſatisfaction the extenſive commerce of your Majeſty's ſubjects protected in moſt of its branches, and large repriſals made on the injurious aggreſſors, by the vigilance of your Majeſty's fleets, and the active ſpirit of the nation.

It would have given your faithful Commons the trueſt happineſs to have received the communication from your Majeſty that the juſt and humane purpoſes of your Majeſty and your Parliament, for quieting the minds of your revolted ſubjects, had taken the deſired effect, and had brought the troubles in North America to a happy concluſion.

Your faithful Commons do moſt heartily concur with your Majeſty in the juſt approbation you have been pleaſed to expreſs of the public ſpirit which has ſo conſpicuouſly animated all ranks of your Majeſty's faithful ſubjects to ſtand forth, at this time of danger, in the ſervice of the militia, who, by their diſcipline and ſteady perſeverance in their duty, have enabled your Majeſty to avail yourſelf of that conſtitutional force for the defence of this country.

Your Majeſty may rely on the hearty and zealous concurrence and aſſiſtance of your faithful Commons, in enabling your Majeſty to make the moſt active and vigorous exertions by ſea and land, for vindicating and eſtabliſhing the national honour and ſecurity; and we beg leave to declare our ſtedfaſt reſolution, and renew our ſolemn aſſurances to your Majeſty, that this Houſe, convinced of the importance of the objects for which we are contending, and impelled by every motive of duty and intereſt that can animate the hearts of Britons, will effectually aſſiſt your Majeſty in the proſecution of the preſent juſt and neceſſary war; and that we will, to the utmoſt of our power, ſupport your Majeſty againſt all your enemies.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my thanks for this very loyal and affectionate addreſs. I am convinced that nothing can ſo effectually promote the public ſervice, as your reſolution and firmneſs at this

this time: I should ill deserve the support of my faithful Commons, and the zeal of my people, for the honour of my crown, if I did not make their safety and their happiness the constant objects of my care and concern.

Message from his Majesty to both Houses of Parliament, June 17, 1779.

GEORGE REX.

THE ambassador of the King of Spain having delivered a paper to Lord Viscount Weymouth, and signified that he has received orders from his court, immediately to withdraw from this country, his Majesty has judged it necessary to direct a copy of that paper to be laid before this House, as a matter of the highest importance to his crown and people; and his Majesty acquaints them, at the same time, that he has found himself obliged, in consequence of this hostile declaration, to recall his ambassador from Madrid.

His Majesty declares, in the most solemn manner, that his desire to preserve and to cultivate peace and friendly inter-course with the Court of Spain has been uniform and sincere, and that his conduct towards that power has been guided by no other motives [illegible] principles than those of good faith, honour, and justice; and [illegible] Majesty sees with the greatest surprise the pretences on which this declaration is grounded, as some of the grievances enumerated in that paper have never come to the knowledge of his Majesty; either by representation on the part of the Catholic King, or by intelligence from any other quarter; and in all those [illegible] where applications have been received, the matter of complaint [illegible] been treated with the utmost attention, and put into a course of [illegible] and redress.

His Majesty has the firmest confidence, that this House will, with that zeal and public spirit which he has so often experienced, support his Majesty in his resolution to exert all the power and all the resources of the nation to resist and repel any hostile attempts of the Court of Spain: and that, by the blessing of God on the rectitude of his intentions and the equity of his cause, his Majesty will be able to withstand and defeat the unjust and dangerous enterprises of his enemies against the honour of his crown, and the commerce, the rights, and the common interests of all his subjects. G. R.

Manifesto

Manifesto delivered to Lord Viscount Weymouth by the Spanish Ambassador, dated June 16, 1779.

ALL the world has been witness to the noble impartiality of the King, in the midst of the disputes of the Court of London with its American Colonies and with France. Besides which, his Majesty having learned that his powerful mediation was desired, generously made an offer of it, which was accepted by the belligerent powers, and for this motive only a ship of war was sent on the part of his Britannic Majesty to one of the ports of Spain. The King has taken the most energetic steps, and such as ought to have produced the most happy effect, to bring those powers to an accommodation equally honourable to both parties, proposing for this end wise expedients for smoothing difficulties and preventing the calamities of war. But although his Majesty's propositions, and particularly those of his *ultimatum*, have been conformable to those which at other times the Court of London itself had appeared to judge proper for an accommodation, and which were also quite as moderate, they have been rejected in a manner that fully proves the little desire which the British Cabinet has to restore peace to Europe, and to preserve the King's friendship. In effect, the conduct of that cabinet, with regard to his Majesty, during the whole course of the negotiation, has had for its object to prolong it for more than eight months, either by vain pretences, or by answers which could not be more inconclusive, whilst in this interval the insults on the Spanish flag, and the violation of the King's territories were carried on to an incredible excess; prizes have been made, ships have been searched and plundered, and a great number of them have been fired upon, which have been obliged to defend themselves, the registers have been opened and torn in pieces, and even the packets of the Court found on board the King's packet-boat.

The dominions of the crown in America have been threatened, and they have gone to the dreadful extremity of raising the Indian nations, called the Chateas, Cheroquees, and Chicachas, against the innocent inhabitants of Louisiana, who would have been the victims of the rage of these barbarians, if the Chateas themselves had not repented, and revealed all the seduction the English had planned. The sovereignty of his Majesty in the province of Darien, and on the coast of St. Blas, has been usurped, the governor of Jamaica having granted to a rebel Indian the commission of captain-general of those provinces.

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In ſhort, the territory of the Bay of Honduras has been recently violated by exerciſing acts of hoſtility, and other exceſſes againſt the Spaniards, who have been impriſoned, and whoſe houſes have been invaded; beſides which, the Court of London has hitherto neglected to accompliſh what the 16th article of the laſt treaty of Paris ſtipulated relative to that coaſt.

Grievances ſo numerous, ſo weighty and recent, have been at different times the object of complaints made in the King's name, and ſtated in memorials which were delivered either to the Britiſh miniſters at London, or tranſmitted to them through the channel of the Engliſh ambaſſador at Madrid; but although the anſwers which were received have been friendly, his Majeſty has hitherto obtained no other ſatisfaction than to ſee the inſults repeated, which lately have amounted to the number of one hundred.

The King, proceeding with that ſincerity and candour which characteriſe him, has formally declared to the Court of London, from the commencement of its diſputes with France, that the conduct of England ſhould be the rule of that which Spain would hold.

His Majeſty likewiſe declared to that Court, that at the time their differences with that of Paris might be accommodated, it would be abſolutely neceſſary to regulate thoſe which had ariſen, or might ſtill ariſe with Spain, and on the plan of mediation which was ſent to the underwritten ambaſſador the 28th of laſt September, and which was delivered by him to the Britiſh miniſtry in the beginning of October, (a plan with which Lord Grantham was appriſed, and of which he received a copy) his Majeſty declared in poſitive terms to the belligerent powers, that in conſideration of the inſults which his ſubjects and dominions had ſuffered, and likewiſe of the attempts levelled againſt his rights, he ſhould be under the neceſſity of taking his part, in caſe the negotiation, inſtead of being continued with ſincerity, ſhould be broken off, or ſhould produce no effect.

The cauſes of complaint given by the Court of London not having ceaſed, and that Court ſhewing no diſpoſitions to give reparation for them, the King has reſolved, and orders his ambaſſador to declare, that the honour of his crown, the protection which he owes to his ſubjects, and his own perſonal dignity, do not permit him to ſuffer their inſults to continue, and to neglect any longer the reparation of thoſe already received, and that in this view, notwithſtanding the pacific diſpoſitions of his Majeſty, and even the particular inclination he had always had and expreſſed for cultivating the friendſhip

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of his Britannic Majesty, he finds himself under the disagreeable necessity of making use of all the means which the Almighty has entrusted him with, to obtain that justice which he has solicited by so many ways, without being able to acquire it: in confiding on the justice of his cause, his Majesty hopes that the consequences of this resolution will not be imputed to him before God or man, and that other nations will form a suitable idea of this resolution, by comparing it to the conduct which they themselves have experienced on the part of the British ministry.

London, June 16, 1779.

(Signed) LE MARQUIS D'ALMODOVAR.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, June 17, 1779.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious message, and communication of the paper delivered to Lord Viscount Weymouth by the ambassador of the King of Spain, which we cannot but consider as a matter of the highest importance to your Majesty's crown and people; and for acquainting us, that in consequence of this hostile declaration, your Majesty had found yourself obliged to give orders to your ambassador to withdraw from that Court.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that among the many proofs we have received of your Majesty's constant care and concern for the safety and happiness of your people, your Majesty's declaration of your sincere desire to preserve and to cultivate peace and friendly intercourse with the Court of Spain, cannot fail to inspire us with the highest sentiments of gratitude and attachment; and that, animated by your Majesty's example, we will, with unshaken fidelity and resolution, and with our lives and fortunes, stand by and support your Majesty against all the hostile designs and attempts of your enemies against the honour of your crown, and the rights and common interests of all your Majesty's subjects.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, June 17, 1779.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, return our humble thanks to your Majesty, for the communication of the paper delivered to Lord Viscount Weymouth by the ambassador of the King of the Spain, which we cannot but consider as a matter of the highest importance to your Majesty's crown and people, and for acquainting us, that in consequence of this hostile declaration, your Majesty has found yourself obliged to give orders to your ambassador to withdraw from that Court.

Among the many proofs we have received of your Majesty's constant care and concern for the safety and happiness of your people, your Majesty's declaration of your sincere desire to preserve and to cultivate peace and friendly intercourse with the Court of Spain, cannot fail to inspire us with the highest sentiments of gratitude and attachment. And we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that, animated by your Majesty's example, we will, with unshaken fidelity and resolution, and with our lives and fortunes, stand by and support your Majesty in resisting and repelling all the hostile designs and attempts of your enemies against the honour of your crown, and the rights and common interests of all your subjects.

His Majesty's Answer to both Houses.

I RETURN you thanks for this loyal and affectionate address. I have the strongest reliance on your support, and I trust that the spirit and vigour of my people, under the Divine protection, will enable me to repel every hostile attempt against my dominions, the honour of my crown, and the rights of my subjects.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 3, 1779.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE many great and essential services you have rendered to me and to your country, during the course of your long attendance in Parliament, demand my most cordial thanks.

I have seen with entire approbation the zeal you have manifested for the support and prosecution of the just and necessary

fary war in which I am engaged; nor am I less sensible of your attention to the present state of my kingdom of Ireland: my paternal affection for all my people makes me sincerely anxious for the happiness and prosperity of every part of my dominions.

Hitherto the events of war have afforded the Court of France no reason to triumph on the consequences of their injustice and breach of public faith; and I trust that by a spirited and prosperous exertion of the force you have put into my hands, that ambitious power may be brought to wish that they had not, without provocation or cause of complaint, insulted the honour and invaded the rights of my crown.

I have already acquainted you with the hostile step which has been lately taken by the Court of Spain. Whatever colour may be attempted to be put upon that unjust proceeding, I am conscious that I have nothing to reproach myself with: it has been followed by the clearest demonstrations of the loyalty and affection of my Parliament to my person and government, for which I repeat to you my warmest thanks; and I consider it as a happy omen of the success of my arms, that the increase of difficulties serves only to augment the courage and constancy of the nation, and to animate and unite my people in the defence of their country, and of every thing that is dear to them.

The advanced season of the year requires that I should afford you some recess from public business, and I do it with the less reluctance, as, by the powers vested in me by law, I can have the aid of your advice and assistance within fourteen days, should any emergency make it necessary for me to convene you before the usual time.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The various and extensive operations of the war have unavoidably occasioned uncommon expence, and brought additional burdens on my faithful and beloved people, which I most sincerely regret; I cannot sufficiently thank you for the confidence you have reposed in me, and for the cheerfulness and public spirit with which the large supplies for the current year have been granted.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is impossible to speak of the continuance of the rebellion in North America without the deepest concern; but we have given such unquestionable proofs of our sincere disposition to put an end to those troubles, that I must still hope, that the malignant designs of the enemies of Great Britain cannot long

prevail

prevail againſt the evident intereſts of thoſe unhappy provinces, and that they will not blindly perſiſt in preferring an unnatural and dangerous connection with a foreign power, to peace and re-union with their mother country.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurſday, the fifth day of Auguſt next, to be then here holden: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the fifth day of Auguſt next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, Nov. 25, 1779.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I MEET you in Parliament at a time when we are called upon by every principle of duty, and every conſideration of intereſt, to exert our united efforts in the ſupport and defence of our country, attacked by an unjuſt and unprovoked war, and contending with one of the moſt dangerous confederacies that ever was formed againſt the crown and people of Great Britain.

The deſigns and attempts of our enemies to invade this kingdom have, by the bleſſing of Providence, been hitherto fruſtrated and diſappointed. They ſtill menace us with great armaments and preparations; but we are, I truſt, on our part, well prepared to meet every attack, and repel every inſult. I know the character of my brave people: the menaces of their enemies, and the approach of danger, have no other effects upon their minds, but to animate their courage and call forth their national ſpirit, which has ſo often checked and defeated the projects of ambition and injuſtice, and enabled the Britiſh fleets and armies to protect their own country, to vindicate their own rights, and at the ſame time to uphold and preſerve the liberties of Europe from the reſtleſs and encroaching power of the Houſe of Bourbon.

In the midſt of my care and ſolicitude for the ſafety and welfare of this country, I have not been inattentive to the ſtate of my loyal and faithful kingdom of Ireland. I have, in conſequence of your addreſſes preſented to me in the laſt ſeſſion, ordered ſuch papers to be collected and laid before you, as may aſſiſt your deliberations on this important buſineſs; and I recommend it to you to conſider what further benefits and

advantages

advantages may be extended to that kingdom, by such regulations, and such methods, as may most effectually promote the common strength, wealth, and interests of all my dominions.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The proper estimates shall, in time, be laid before you. I see with extreme concern, tha tthe necessary establishments of my naval and military forces, and the various services and operations of the ensuing year, must inevitably be attended with great and heavy expences; but I rely on your wisdom and public spirit for such supplies, as the circumstances and exigencies of our affairs shall be found to require.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have great satisfaction in renewing the assurances of my entire approbation of the good conduct and discipline of the militia, and of their steady perseverance in their duty: and I return my cordial thanks to all ranks of my loyal subjects, who have stood forth in this arduous conjuncture, and by their zeal, their influence, and their personal service, have given confidence, as well as strength, to the national defence. Trusting in the divine Providence, and in the justice of my cause, I am firmly resolved to prosecute the war with vigour, and to make every exertion in order to compel our enemies to listen to equitable terms of peace and accommodation.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Nov. 26, 1772.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

The just sense we have of the blessings under your Majesty's government, and the indignation we feel at the unprovoked and unwarrantable aggression of our enemies, who seek to deprive us of those blessings, and threaten your Majesty's kingdoms with invasion, will continue to animate our resolutions, and redouble our efforts in the national defence. We trust, that those efforts, seconded by the zeal of a faithful and loyal people, will, under the Providence of God, be fully sufficient to repel every attack, to frustrate the hopes, and defeat the designs of any confederacy that may be formed against your Majesty's crown and dominions.

In ſuch a criſis, the approach of danger can ſerve only to call forth that national ſpirit, which always riſes with the occaſion that demands it, but never diſplayed itſelf in a more important conjuncture, though it has ſo often protected the liberties of theſe kingdoms, and of Europe in general, and has enabled the Britiſh fleets and armies to withſtand, and defeat the deſigns of that reſtleſs and aſpiring ambition, which has ſo frequently diſturbed the peace and invaded the rights of mankind.

We are deeply ſenſible of your Majeſty's paternal goodneſs, which does not confine itſelf to one part of your dominions, but is anxious for the proſperity of the whole, and in the midſt of your care and ſolicitude for the ſafety and welfare of this country, has led your attention to the ſtate of your loyal and faithful kingdom of Ireland. Guided by the ſame ſentiments which prompted the humble addreſs we preſented to your Majeſty the laſt ſeſſion, we will continue our attention to thoſe important objects your Majeſty's wiſdom recommends, and after deliberately weighing the whole, will conſider what further benefits may be extended to that kingdom, by ſuch regulations and ſuch methods as may moſt effectually promote the common ſtrength, wealth, and intereſts of all your Majeſty's dominions.

Your Majeſty's approbation of the good conduct and diſcipline of the militia, and of their ſteady perſeverance in their duty, and the ſatisfaction your Majeſty expreſſes in the conduct of your loyal ſubjects of all ranks, who have ſtood forth in this arduous conjuncture, muſt redouble that zeal, extend that influence, and increaſe thoſe perſonal exertions which have given confidence as well as ſtrength to the national defence.

We ſee, with great ſatiſfaction, that your Majeſty, truſting in the divine Providence, and in the juſtice of your cauſe, is firmly reſolved to proſecute the war with vigour, and to make every exertion in order to compel our enemies to liſten to equitable terms of peace and accommodation. Such ſpirited and vigorous meaſures muſt be conducive to ſo deſirable an end; and we humbly beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that they will meet with our moſt hearty concurrence and firmeſt ſupport.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this dutiful and loyal addreſs. The ſpirit and reſolution with which you ſtand forth in the national defence, and the ſupport you promiſe to the vigorous meaſures I am

am determined to purſue, muſt tend to reſtore, upon fair and equitable terms, that general tranquillity which I have ever endeavoured to maintain; and your attention to thoſe important objects I have recommended to you, will, I doubt not, increaſe the general proſperity of all my ſubjects, which is my conſtant and invariable aim.

Addreſs of the Houſe of Commons to his Majeſty, Nov. 26, 1779.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe, for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We are truly ſenſible that, in the preſent arduous ſituation of affairs, we are called upon by every principle and every ſentiment of duty to your Majeſty, and to thoſe we repreſent, to exert and to unite our utmoſt efforts in the ſupport and defence of our country againſt a moſt unjuſt war, and one of the moſt dangerous confederacies that was ever formed againſt the crown and people of Great Britain.

We ſee and revere the goodneſs of divine Providence, in fruſtrating and diſappointing the deſigns of our enemies to invade this kingdom: and whenever they attempt to carry their menaces into execution, we truſt that their attacks will be repelled, and their enterpriſe defeated, by the bleſſing of the ſame Providence on the valour and intrepidity of your Majeſty's fleets and armies; and that your Majeſty's gracious and endearing declaration of your confidence in the character and courage of your people will be juſtified, by the moſt convincing proofs, that they are ſtill animated by the ſame ardour, and the ſame ſpirit, that have in former times carried this nation through ſo many difficulties and dangers, and have ſo often enabled their anceſtors to protect their country and all its dominions, and to ſave not only their own rights, but the liberties of other free ſtates, from the reſtleſs ambition and incroaching power of the Houſe of Bourbon.

We acknowledge, with thankfulneſs, your Majeſty's goodneſs and attention to the addreſs of this Houſe, reſpecting your loyal and faithful kingdom of Ireland, in being pleaſed to order ſuch papers to be communicated to this Houſe, as may aſſiſt our deliberations on this important buſineſs: and we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that we ſhall not fail to take into our conſideration what further benefits and advantages may be extended to that kingdom by ſuch regulations, and ſuch methods,

as may moſt effectually promote the common ſtrength, wealth, and intereſts of all our dominions.

Permit us, Sir, to return our humble thanks to your Majeſty, for the gracious manner in which your Majeſty renews and confirms your entire approbation of the good conduct and ſteady diſcipline of the national militia; and to aſſure your Majeſty, that we concur moſt ſincerely with your Majeſty in acknowledging and applauding the meritorious zeal and ſervices of thoſe loyal ſubjects who ſtood forth in the hour of danger, and who have added confidence as well as ſtrength to the national defence.

Your Majeſty's faithful Commons receive with gratitude, and take a ſincere part in your Majeſty's paternal expreſſions of concern that the various and extenſive ſervices and operations of the enſuing year muſt unavoidably be attended with great and heavy expences; yet, when it is conſidered how much the commerce, the proſperity, and the ſafety of Great Britain depend on the iſſue of this conteſt, we doubt not that ſuch powerful conſiderations and motives will induce all your Majeſty's ſubjects to ſuſtain, with cheerfulneſs and magnanimity, whatever burthens ſhall be found neceſſary for raiſing ſuch ſupplies as may enable your Majeſty to proſecute the war with vigour and effect, and to make every exertion in order to compel your enemies to liſten to equitable terms of peace and accommodation.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I RECEIVE with the greateſt and moſt cordial ſatiſfaction, this very loyal and affectionate addreſs; and I return you my particular thanks for it.

The ſpirit and firmneſs you ſhew, the zeal you ſo ſeaſonably expreſs in this arduous ſtate of public affairs, and the aſſurances of your attention to the important objects I have recommended to your deliberation, cannot fail of having the beſt effects both at home and abroad.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Commons, June 6, 1780,

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty that he will be graciouſly pleaſed to give directions to the Attorney General, forthwith to proſecute all ſuch perſons as ſhall be found to be the inſtigators or abettors of, or active in promot-

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ing the riots and tumults that were on Friday laſt, in Old Palace Yard, and the avenues to this Houſe, and that were concerned in any of the outrages committed upon the houſes and chapels of any of the miniſters from foreign ſtates, or in any outrages againſt the property and houſes of any of his Majeſty's ſubjects.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Commons, June 6, 1780,

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, that he will be graciouſly pleaſed to give immediate directions that an inquiry be made into the amount of the damages occaſioned by the outrages which have been committed upon the houſes and chapels of any of the miniſters from foreign ſtates, and humbly to deſire his Majeſty that he will be graciouſly pleaſed to order ſuch ſatisfaction and recompence to be made for the ſame, as his Majeſty in his wiſdom ſhall think proper, and to aſſure his Majeſty that this Houſe will make good the expence that ſhall be incurred on that account.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, June 19, 1780.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE outrages committed by bands of deſperate and abandoned men, in various parts of this metropolis, broke forth with ſuch violence into acts of felony and treaſon, had ſo far overborne all civil authority, and threatened ſo directly the immediate ſubverſion of all legal power, the deſtruction of all property, and the confuſion of every order in the ſtate, that I found myſelf obliged by every tie of duty and affection to my people, to ſuppreſs, in every part, thoſe rebellious inſurrections, and to provide for the public ſafety, by the moſt effectual and immediate application of the force entruſted to me by Parliament.

I have directed copies of the proclamations iſſued upon that occaſion to be laid before you.

Proper orders have been given for bringing the authors and abettors of theſe inſurrections, and the perpetrators of ſuch criminal acts, to ſpeedy trial, and to ſuch condign puniſhment as the laws of their country preſcribe, and as the vindication of public juſtice demands.

Though I truſt it is not neceſſary, yet I think it right at this time, to renew to you my ſolemn aſſurances, that I have no other object but to make the laws of the realm, and the prin-

 ciples

ciples of our excellent conſtitution in church and ſtate, the rule and meaſure of my conduct; and I ſhall ever conſider it as the firſt duty of my ſtation, and the chief glory of my reign, to maintain and preſerve the eſtabliſhed religion of my kingdoms, and, as far as in me lies, to ſecure and to perpetuate the rights and liberties of my people.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, June 19, 1780.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We feel the utmoſt abhorrence and deteſtation of the outrages committed in various parts of this metropolis by bands of deſperate and abandoned men, outrages that broke forth with ſuch violence into acts of felony and treaſon, and which threatening ſo directly the immediate ſubverſion of all legal authority, the deſtruction of all property, and the confuſion of every order in the ſtate, called loudly for the ſpeedieſt and moſt effectual application of the force entruſted to your Majeſty by law.

We beg leave to teſtify our warmeſt gratitude to your Majeſty for your paternal care and concern for the protection of your ſubjects, ſo manifeſt in the meaſures your wiſdom directed in this urgent neceſſity, to ſuppreſs in every part theſe rebellious inſurrections, and to provide for the general ſafety, by the reſtoration of public peace.

We thank your Majeſty for the communication you have been pleaſed to make to this Houſe of the proclamations iſſued in this alarming conjuncture.

We learn with ſatisfaction that orders have been given for bringing the offenders to ſpeedy trial, and to ſuch condign puniſhment as the law preſcribes, and the vindication of public juſtice demands.

Although the uniform tenor of your Majeſty's conduct rendered unneceſſary the renewal of your gracious aſſurances to your Parliament, yet the manner in which they are given raiſes in us the warmeſt emotions of gratitude, affection, and duty. Such a declaration of the juſt and wiſe principles that are the rule and meaſure of your Majeſty's government, muſt endear your Majeſty more and more to all your ſubjects, and meet with the fulleſt return of attachment, confidence, and zeal.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Answer,

My Lords,

I THANK you heartily for this address, so full of duty to me, and of zeal for your country. Your abhorrence of the rebellious insurrections, and your unanimous approbation of the measures taken to suppress them, must have the most salutary effects. Nothing can give me greater satisfaction than the confidence you repose in me. It shall be justified by the whose tenor of my reign.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, June, 19, 1780.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the humble thanks of this House, for your most gracious speech from the throne; and for the communication which your Majesty has been pleased to make to this House, of the proclamations issued during the late most dangerous and alarming disturbances.

We think it our indispensable duty to express, in the strongest terms, our abhorrence of the proceedings of those tumultuous assemblies, and of the criminal acts of outrage and violence committed by those desperate bands of men, and our highest indignation against the authors, promoters, and perpetrators of them, and to acknowledge, with the warmest emotions of gratitude, duty, and affection, your Majesty's parental care and concern for the protection of your subjects, in the measures which your Majesty, as the father of your people, and the guardian of public safety, took in the hour of extreme and imminent necessity, for the immediate and effectual suppression of those rebellious insurrections.

We learn with satisfaction, that proper orders have been given for bringing the offenders to speedy trial, and to such punishment, as, upon conviction of their crimes, the laws prescribe, and the vindication of public justice certainly demands.

Although the constant tenor of your Majesty's just and constitutional government made a renewal of your Majesty's royal assurances to your Parliament unnecessary, yet we cannot but receive with great thankfulness so signal a mark of your Majesty's gracious attention; and we beg leave, on our part, to assure your Majesty, that this condescending and endearing de-

claration cannot fail of securing to your Majesty, in the hearts of your people, the most affectionate returns of confidence, attachment, and support.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my cordial and particular thanks for this loyal, affectionate, and unanimous address.

Union at this time must have the best and most important consequences: nothing can more powerfully assist me in preserving the public safety, and securing reverence for the laws, and obedience to legal government. Be assured that it is my constant and ardent desire to promote the happiness of all my subjects, and to deserve the confidence and support of a free people.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, delivered by Lord North, June 19, 1780.

THE Lord North informed the House, that he was command by his Majesty to acquaint this House, that his Majesty has caused the Right Honourable Lord George Gordon, a member of this House, to be apprehended and committed for high treason.

Resolved by the House of Commons, June 19, 1780,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return his Majesty the thanks of this House, for communicating to this House the reason for which his Majesty has caused the Right Honourable Lord George Gordon, a member of this House, to be apprehended and committed.

Resolved by the House of Commons, July 6, 1780,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to order an account to be taken of the losses and damages which any of his subjects have sustained by reason of the late rebellious insurrections, and to direct that the same be laid before this House at the opening of the next session of Parliament.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 8, 1780.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT gives me great satisfaction to find myself able to determine this long session of Parliament, that you may be at liberty to return to your several counties, and attend to your private affairs, after so laborious a discharge of your duty in the public service; and I take this occasion to express my sincere acknowledgments for the fresh proofs you have given me of your affectionate zeal for the support of my government, and of your just estimation of the real and permanent interests of your country.

Your magnanimity and perseverance in the prosecution of this just and necessary war have enabled me to make such exertions, as will, I trust, by the assistance of divine Providence, disappoint the violent and unjust designs of my enemies, and bring them to listen to equitable and honourable terms of peace.

These exertions have already been attended with success by sea and land; and the late important and prosperous turn of affairs in North America affords the fairest prospect of the returning loyalty and affection of my subjects in the colonies, and of their happy re-union with their parent country.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I feel myself under particular obligations to thank you for the large and ample supplies you have so cheerfully granted, and for the confidence you repose in me. No attention shall be wanting, on my part, to render them effectual, and to see them faithfully applied.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Let me earnestly recommend to you to assist me, by your influence and authority in your several counties, as you have by your unanimous support in Parliament, in guarding the peace of the kingdom from future disturbances, and watching over the preservation of the public safety. Make my people sensible of the happiness they enjoy, and the distinguished advantages they derive, from our excellent constitution in church and state. Warn them of the hazard of innovation—point out to them the fatal consequences of such commotions as have lately been excited; and let it be your care to impress on their minds this important truth—that rebellious insurrections to resist or to reform the laws, must end either in the destruction of the persons who make the attempt, or in the subversion of our free and happy constitution.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-fourth day of August next, to be then here holden: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-fourth day of August next.

Speech of the Lord Chancellor to the House of Commons, Oct. 31, 1780.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HIS Majesty has been pleased to command me to acquaint you, that he will defer declaring the cause of calling this Parliament, till there shall be a Speaker of the House of Commons: and, therefore, it is his Majesty's pleasure that you, Gentlemen of the House of Commons, do immediately repair to the place where the Commons usually sit, and there choose a fit person to be your Speaker; and that you present such person who shall be so chosen, to his Majesty here, for his royal approbation, to-morrow at two of the clock.

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majesty, Nov. 1, 1780.

May it please your Majesty,

YOUR faithful Commons in Parliament assembled, having, pursuant to your Majesty's directions, and their ancient right, proceeded to the election of a Speaker, I am sorry to inform your Majesty, that their choice has fallen upon me. Conscious of my own inability to discharge so weighty and important a trust, I most humbly entreat your Majesty to give them an opportunity of reconsidering their choice, and send them back to a new election.

The Lord Chancellor, after a short conference with his Majesty, replied,

Mr. Cornewall,

However diffident you may be of your own qualifications, his Majesty is so well convinced of your talents, diligence, and sufficiency for the high situation to which you have been elected, that his Majesty cannot decline giving the fullest approbation

probation to the choice his Commons have made. I am now commanded, therefore, by his Majesty, to declare that it is with great pleasure he allows and confirms you as their Speaker.

To this speech, Mr. Cornewall made the following answer:

As your Majesty, by approving the choice of your Commons, has confirmed me their Speaker, I humbly entreat your Majesty to accept my acknowledgments for your favourable opinion of my abilities, and that your Majesty will vouchsafe to pardon my failings, so that no unguarded word or act of mine may ever be imputed to your faithful Commons: and that your Commons of Great Britain may be the better enabled to discharge their duty to your Majesty and to their country, I do, in their name, and on their behalf, by humble petition to your Majesty, lay claim to all their ancient rights and privileges; particularly that their persons, and those of their servants, may be free from arrests, and all other molestation; that they may enjoy freedom of speech in their debates; that they may have free access to your royal person; and that all their proceedings may receive from your Majesty the most favourable interpretation.

To this the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's order, replied,

Sir,

The King has commanded me to say, that he has the highest confidence in the duty, loyalty, and affection of his Commons his person and government, as well as in their wisdom and prudence in all proceedings; his Majesty therefore does most readily allow them all their privileges, in as full and ample a manner as they have at any time been allowed to any former Parliament, by his Majesty or any of his royal predecessors.—With respect to that part of your petition which concerns yourself, though his Majesty is persuaded that no man can stand in less need of it, yet, that you may enter with the fullest confidence on the office to which you have been chosen, his Majesty has directed me to assure you that he shall ever put the most favourable construction on your words and actions.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 1, 1780.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is with more than ordinary satisfaction that I meet you in Parliament, at a time when the late elections may afford me an opportunity of receiving the most certain information of the disposition and the wishes of my people, to which I am always inclined to pay the utmost attention and regard.

The present arduous situation of public affairs is well known; the whole force and faculties of the monarchies of France and Spain are drawn forth, and exerted to the utmost, to support the rebellion of my colonies in North America, and, without the least provocation or cause of complaint to attack my dominions; and the undisguised object of this confederacy manifestly is to gratify boundless ambition, by destroying the commerce, and giving a fatal blow to the power of Great Britain.

By the force which the late Parliament put into my hands, and by the blessing of divine Providence on the bravery of my fleets and armies, I have been able to withstand the formidable attempts of my enemies, and to frustrate the great expectations they had formed; and the signal successes which have attended the progress of my arms in the provinces of Georgia and Carolina, gained with so much honour to the conduct and courage of my officers, and to the valour and intrepidity of my troops, which have equalled their highest character in any age, will, I trust, have important consequences, in bringing the war to a happy conclusion. It is my most earnest desire to see this great end accomplished; but I am confident you will agree with me in opinion, that we can only secure safe and honourable terms of peace by such powerful and respectable preparations, as shall convince our enemies that we will not submit to receive the law from any powers whatsoever, and that we are united in a firm resolution to decline no difficulty, or hazard, in the defence of our country, and for the preservation of our essential interests.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you. I see and feel with great anxiety and concern, that the various services of the war must, unavoidably, be attended with great and heavy expences; but I desire you to grant me such supplies only, as your own security, and lasting welfare, and the exigency of affairs shall be found to require.

My

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I repoſe an entire confidence in the zeal and affections of this Parliament, conſcious that during the whole courſe of my reign, it has been the conſtant object of my care, and the wiſh of my heart, to promote the true intereſts and happineſs of all my ſubjects, and to preſerve inviolate our excellent conſtitution in church and ſtate.

Addreſs of the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, Nov. 1, 1780.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Permit us to offer to your Majeſty our moſt dutiful congratulations on the birth of another prince, and the happy recovery of the Queen, and to aſſure your Majeſty, that every addition to your Majeſty's domeſtic happineſs muſt always afford the higheſt ſatisfaction to your faithful ſubjects.

In the preſent arduous ſituation of public affairs, we think it an indiſpenſable part of our duty to make thoſe ſpirited and vigorous exertions which ſuch a conjuncture demands; and we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that we are united in a firm reſolution to decline no difficulty or hazard in the defence of our country, and for the preſervation of our eſſential intereſts.

It is with juſt and heartfelt indignation that we ſee the monarchies of France and Spain leagued in confederacy to ſupport the rebellion in your Majeſty's colonies in North America, and employing the whole force of thoſe kingdoms in the proſecution of a war waged in violation of all public faith, and for the ſole purpoſe of gratifying boundleſs ambition, by deſtroying the commerce, and giving a fatal blow to the power of Great Britain.

We have ſeen with great ſatisfaction that the force which, with juſt confidence, was entruſted to your Majeſty by Parliament, has, by the bleſſing of divine Providence on the bravery of your fleets and armies, enabled your Majeſty to withſtand the formidable attempts of your enemies, and to fruſtrate the great expectations they had conceived; and we hope and truſt, that the ſucceſs of your Majeſty's arms in Georgia and Carolina, gained with ſo much honour to the conduct and courage of your Majeſty's officers, and to the valour and intrepidity of

your troops, will have the moſt important conſequences, and that ſuch ſignal events, followed by thoſe vigorous meaſures which your Majeſty recommends, and in which we are determined to concur, will diſappoint all the views of our enemies, and reſtore the bleſſings of a ſafe and honourable peace.

We are ſatisfied that the only way to accompliſh this great end, which your Majeſty ſo earneſtly deſires, is to make ſuch powerful and reſpectable preparations as ſhall convince our enemies, that we will not ſubmit to receive the law from any powers whatever, but, with that ſpirit and reſolution which become us, will maintain the eſſential rights, honour, and dignity, of Great Britain

We have a deep and moſt grateful ſenſe of the conſtant ſolicitude your Majeſty ſhows to promote the true intereſts and happineſs of all your ſubjects, and to preſerve inviolate our excellent conſtitution in church and ſtate. And we beg leave humbly to aſſure your Majeſty, that it ſhall be our earneſt endeavour to juſtify and deſerve the confidence which your Majeſty ſo graciouſly places in our affection, duty, and zeal.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

I THANK you heartily for this very loyal and dutiful addreſs.

The joy you expreſs in the increaſe of my family, and in the happy recovery of the Queen, is extremely agreeable to me.

Your wiſe and ſpirited reſolutions to proſecute the war with vigour, and to maintain, at every hazard, the eſſential intereſts, dignity, and honour of Great Britain, give me the higheſt ſatisfaction, and muſt be productive of the moſt ſalutary effects, both at home and abroad.

Addreſs of the Houſe of Commons to his Majeſty, Nov. 7, 1780.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament aſſembled, return your Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe, for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We beg leave to congratulate your Majeſty upon the ſafe delivery of the Queen, and the birth of another prince; and to aſſure

assure your Majesty that we take a sincere part in every event that contributes to your Majesty's domestic happiness.

We acknowledge, with the utmost gratitude, your Majesty's condescending goodness, in your desire to meet your Parliament at this time, and your gracious expression of attention and regard to the disposition and wishes of your people.

We are impressed with a due sense of the difficulties of the present arduous conjuncture, when the whole force of France and Spain is combined and exerted to support the rebellion in your Majesty's colonies, and to attack all the dominions of your crown; and when it is but too manifest to all the world that the real views of this most unjust confederacy are to give a fatal blow to the commerce and power of Great Britain, in resentment for the successful efforts which the nation has so often made to save the liberties of Europe from the ambition of the House of Bourbon.

We have observed, with great and just satisfaction, that your Majesty, by the support of your Parliament, and the spirit and bravery of your fleets and armies, has, under the Divine protection, been enabled to withstand the formidable attempts of your enemies; and we offer our most cordial congratulations to your Majesty, on the signal successes which have attended the progress of your Majesty's arms in the provinces of Georgia and Carolina, and in which the conduct and courage of your Majesty's officers, and the valour and intrepidity of your troops have been so eminently distinguished.

We consider your Majesty's earnest desire and solicitude to see the war brought to a happy conclusion as the strongest proof of your paternal regard for your people: but we entirely agree with your Majesty, that safe and honourable terms of peace can only be secured by such powerful preparations and vigorous exertions as shall convince our enemies that your Majesty and your Parliament are united in a firm and stedfast resolution to decline no difficulty or danger in the defence of their country, and for the maintenance of their essential interests.

We are thoroughly sensible that these ends cannot be effected without great and heavy expences; and we will grant your Majesty such supplies as the lasting security and welfare of your kingdoms and the exigency of affairs shall be found to require.

Your Majesty may rely, with entire confidence, on the most zealous and affectionate attachment of your faithful Commons to your person, family, and government; and we acknowledge, with the liveliest sentiments of reverence and gratitude, that the constant tenor of your Majesty's conduct shows that the sole objects of your royal care and concern are

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to promote the happiness of your people, and to preserve inviolate our excellent constitution in church and state.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this very dutiful address. I receive your congratulations on the increase of my family and on the happy recovery of the Queen, as a mark of your loyalty and affection.

I have a firm confidence that the support of my faithful Commons, and the spirit of my brave people, engaged in a just cause, and fighting for their country and their essential interests, will, in the end, enable me to surmount all difficulties, and to attain the object of all my measures and all my exertions, a safe and honourable peace.

The humble Address of the Archbishop, the Bishops and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury in Convocation assembled, presented to his Majesty, Nov. 17, 1780.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Archbishop, Bishops, and Clergy, of the province of Canterbury, in convocation assembled, humbly beg leave to approach your throne, and with the deepest sense of gratitude for the protection we continue to enjoy under your Majesty's reign, to offer our unfeigned congratulations on the further security of your Majesty's illustrious House, by the birth of another prince, and on the happy recovery of our gracious Queen, the patroness of religion and virtue.

We are, on this occasion, particularly obliged to acknowledge and admire a late instance of your Majesty's attention to the interests of Christianity, in your royal munificence to the pious designs of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in foreign Parts, erected by a charter from your glorious predecessor, King William, and now restored to its former activity, by the liberal contributions of your subjects, encouraged by your Majesty's example.

Amidst all the protection and favour we derive from the goodness of your Majesty's heart, we lament the necessity of confessing, that the licentiousness of the times continues to counteract your paternal care for the state of national religion;

bad men and bad books are the produce of all times, but we obſerve, with particular regret, that the wickedneſs of the age hath of late been directly pointed at the fences of piety and virtue, eſtabliſhed by God himſelf, and apparently ſecured by law.

The open violation of the Lord's day, and the invitations of men to deſert the religious duties of that day for amuſements, frivolous at beſt, appears to call for the aid of the civil magiſtrate, to check the progreſs of an evil ſo dangerous both to church and ſtate, by ſuppreſſing, on the Lord's day, places of reſort for pleaſure, where the interpoſition of the miniſters of religion is impracticable. We humbly aſſure your Majeſty, that ſo far as any exertion of our's can reach, we ſhall not fail to admoniſh and rebuke, both by word and example.

We have the comfortable hope, Sir, that it will appear to your Majeſty, that Popery is leſs prevalent than it has been in this pa[illegible] are too zealouſly attached to Proteſtantiſm not to oppoſe [illegible] of the church of Rome, as well in controverſial attacks as in the more ſucceſsful way of teaching the doctrines of our apoſtolical church; adhering, at the ſame time, invariably to the principles of the reformation, which direct us to oppoſe error of every kind, by argument and perſuaſion, and to diſavow all violence in the cauſe of religion.

May Almighty God, who, for our ſins, hath permitted your Majeſty to be involved in a war, juſt, indeed, and neceſſary, but in its own nature productive of much calamity, bleſs your Majeſty's efforts with deciſive ſucceſs.

It becomes us, as miniſters of the goſpel, to praiſe God for every victory which has a tendency to the bleſſings of peace; and whenever it ſhall pleaſe his infinite wiſdom to reſtore them to this nation, we ſhall further beſeech him to grant to your Majeſty the full enjoyment of thoſe bleſſings for many years, in the proſperity and unanimous loyalty of your ſubjects.

To which Addreſs his Majeſty was pleaſed to return the following moſt gracious Anſwer:

I THANK you for your congratulations on the increaſe of my family, and the happy recovery of the Queen.

I hear, with pleaſure, the zeal you expreſs for the intereſts of our holy religion; and I ſhall continue to make it my conſtant endeavour to ſupport them upon the principles of the reformation, againſt the incroachments of licentiouſneſs or ſuperſtition.

 Truſt-

Trusting to the justice of my cause, I rely on the continuance of the blessings of Providence on my endeavours to restore to my people a safe and honourable peace.

Message from his Majesty to the Houses of Lords and Commons, January 25, 1781.

GEORGE REX

HIS Majesty has thought it proper to acquaint the House of Lords, that, during the recess of Parliament, he has been indispensably obliged to direct letters of marque and general reprisals to be issued against the States General of the United Provinces and their subjects.

The causes and motives of his Majesty's conduct on this occasion are set forth in his public declaration, which he has ordered to be laid before the House.

His Majesty has, with the utmost reluctance, been induced to take [illegible] whose alliance with this kingdom [illegible] the faith of ancient treaties [illegible] of good policy. He has used every [illegible] States General to return to a [illegible] those principles, to the tenor of the [illegible] and natural interest of both co[illegible] nothing untried to prevent, if possible, the [illegible]

His Majesty [illegible] that the justice and necessity of [illegible] acknowledged by all the world. Relying [illegible] protection of divine Providence, [illegible] support of his people, his Majesty [illegible] that, by a vigorous exertion of the [illegible] of the nation, he shall be able to maintain the honour of his crown and the rights and interests of his people, [illegible] his enemies, and to bring them to listen to equitable terms of peace.

Manifesto.

GEORGE REX.

THROUGH the whole course of our reign, our conduct towards the States General of the United Provinces has been that of a sincere friend and faithful ally. Had they adhered to those wise principles which used to govern the Republic, they must have shewn themselves equally solicitous to maintain the friendship which has so long subsisted between the

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two nations, and which is essential to the interest of both? but, from the prevalence of a faction devoted to France, and following the dictates of that court, a very different policy has prevailed. The return made to our friendship, for some time past, has been an open contempt of the most solemn engagements, and a repeated violation of public faith.

On the commencement of the defensive war in which we found ourselves engaged by the aggression of France, we shewed a tender regard for the interests of the States General, and a desire of securing to their subjects every advantage of trade, consistent with the great and just principle of our own defence: our ambassador was instructed to offer a friendly negociation, to obviate every thing that might lead to disagreeable discussion, and to this offer solemnly made by him to the States General the 2d of November, 1778, no attention was paid.

After the number of our enemies increased by the aggression of Spain, equally unprovoked with that of France, we found it necessary to call upon the States General for the performance of their engagements. The fifth article of the perpetual defensive alliance between our Crown and the States General, concluded at Westminster the 3d day of March, 1678, besides the general engagement for succours, expressly stipulates, "That the party of the two allies that is not at-"tacked shall be obliged to break with the aggressor in two "months, after the party attacked shall require it:" yet, two years have passed without the least assistance given to us, without a single syllable in answer to our repeated demands.

So totally regardless have the States been of their treaties with us, that they readily promised our enemies to observe a neutrality, in direct contradiction to those engagements; and whilst they have withheld from us the succours they were bound to furnish, every secret assistance has been given the enemy; and inland duties have been taken off, for the sole purpose of facilitating the carriage of naval stores to France.

In direct and open violation of treaty they suffered an American pirate to remain several weeks in one of their ports; and even permitted a part of his crew to mount guard in a fort in the Texel.

In the East Indies the subjects of the States General, in concert with France, have endeavoured to raise up enemies against us.

In the West Indies, particularly at St. Eustatius, every protection and assistance has been given to our rebellious subjects. Their privateers are openly received in the Dutch harbours, allowed to refit there, supplied with arms and ammu-

nition, their crews recruited, their prizes brought in and fold; and all this in direct violation of as clear and solemn stipulations as can be made.

This conduct, so inconsistent with all good faith, so repugnant to the sense of the wisest part of the Dutch nation, is chiefly to be ascribed to the prevalence of the leading magistrates at Amsterdam, whose secret correspondence with our rebellious subjects was suspected long before it was made known by the fortunate discovery of a treaty; the first article of which is:

"There shall be a firm, inviolable, and universal peace and "sincere friendship between their High Mightinesses, the "Estates of the Seven United Provinces of Holland, and the "United States of North America, and the subjects and people "of the said parties; and between the countries, islands, ci-"ties, and towns, situated under the jurisdiction of the said "United States of Holland, and the said United States of "America, and the people and inhabitants thereof of every "degree, without the exception of persons or places."

This treaty was signed in September, 1778, by the express order of the pensionary of Amsterdam, and other principal magistrates of that city. They now not only avow the whole transaction, but glory in it, and expressly say, even to the States General, that what they did, "was what their indis-"pensable duty required."

In the mean time, the States General declined to give any answer to the memorial presented by our ambassador; and this refusal was aggravated by their proceeding upon other business, nay, upon the consideration of this very subject to internal purposes; and while they found it impossible to approve the conduct of their subjects, they still industriously avoided to give us the satisfaction so manifestly due.

We had every right to expect, that such a discovery would have roused them to a just indignation at the insult offered to us, and to themselves; and that they would have been eager to give us full and ample satisfaction for the offence, and to inflict the severest punishments upon the offenders. The urgency of the business made an instant answer essential to the honour and safety of this country. The demand was accordingly pressed by our ambassador in repeated conferences with the ministers; and in a second memorial, it was pressed with all the earnestness which could proceed from our ancient friendship, and the sense of recent injuries; and the answer now given to a memorial on such a subject, delivered about five weeks ago, is, *That the States have taken it ad referendum.* Such an answer, upon such an occasion, could only be dictated

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by the fixed purpose of hostility, meditated and already resolved by the States, induced by the offensive councils of Amsterdam, thus to countenance the hostile aggression which the magistrates of that city have made in the name of the Republic.

There is an end of the faith of all treaties with them, if Amsterdam may usurp the sovereign power, may violate those treaties with impunity, by pledging the States to engagements directly contrary, and leaguing the Republic with the rebels of a sovereign to whom she is bound by the closest ties. An infraction of the law of nations, by the meanest member of any country, gives the injured state a right to demand satisfaction and punishment: how much more so, when the injury complained of is a flagrant violation of public faith, committed by leading and predominant members in the state: since, then, the satisfaction we have demanded is not given, we must, though most reluctantly, do ourselves that justice which we cannot otherwise obtain: we must consider the States General as parties in the injury, which they will not repair, as sharers in the aggression which they refuse to punish, and must act accordingly. We have, therefore, ordered our ambassador to withdraw from the Hague, and shall immediately pursue such vigorous measures as the occasion fully justifies, and our dignity and the essential interests of our people require. From a regard to the Dutch nation at large, we wish it were possible to direct those measures wholly against Amsterdam, but this cannot be unless the States General shall immediately declare, that Amsterdam shall, upon this occasion, receive no assistance from them; but be left to abide the consequences of its aggression.

Whilst Amsterdam is suffered to prevail in the general councils, and is backed by the strength of the State, it is impossible to resist the aggression of so considerable a part without contending with the whole. But we are too sensible of the common interests of both countries, nor to remember, in the midst of such a contest, that the only point to be aimed at by us, is to raise a disposition in the councils of the Republic to return to our ancient union, by giving us that satisfaction for the past and security for the future, which we shall be as ready to receive as they can be to offer; and to the attainment of which we shall direct all our operations: we mean only to provide for our own security by defeating the dangerous designs that have been formed against us. We shall ever be disposed to return to friendship with the States General, when they sincerely revert to that system which the wisdom of their ancestors formed, and which has now been subverted by a powerful faction conspiring with France against the true interests

terests of the Republic, no less than against those of Great Britain. G. R.

St. James's, Dec. 20, 1780.

Answer of the States General to the Manifesto of the King of Great Britain.

IF ever the annals of the world have furnished an instance of a free and independent state being attacked by an enemy, in the most unjustifiable manner, and without the least appearance of right or equity, by a neighbouring power allied for a long time, and bound by ties founded on the basis of common interest, it is without doubt the Republic of the United States of the Netherlands, which finds itself in that case with his Majesty the King of Great Britain and his ministers From the beginning of the disputes which had arisen between that kingdom and its American colonies, their High Mightinesses, no wise obliged to interfere, had taken the firm and determined resolution to adopt and strictly to adhere to the most exact neutrality: and when the said disputes had kindled the flames of a war which hath embroiled more powers than one, and spread in several parts of the world, their High Mightinesses have constantly observed and maintained the same line of conduct, whilst, in the mean time, they have taken care to give on many occasions, and in some instances of a very essential nature, the most convincing proofs of their sincere inclination to conform to the wishes of his Majesty: so far as they could do it without going against the rules of impartiality, or bringing in question their rights of sovereignty

It was with this view, and for this purpose, that their High Mightinesses, from the beginning, and at the requisition of his Britannic Majesty, caused most express inhibitions to be published against the exportation of all warlike stores to the colonies of his Britannic Majesty in America; and against all fraudulent trade with the said colonies: and, in order that the said prohibitions should be more effectually carried into execution, their High Mightinesses made no difficulty to take such farther step as greatly circumscribed their own navigation. and the trade of their subjects with the Dutch colonies in the West Indies.

It was to further the above purposes, that their High Mightinesses sent the most exact orders to all commanders and governors of their colonies and settlements, as well as to the commanders of their ships of war, carefully to abstain from doing

doing, in regard to the American flag, any thing from which could be justly inferred or deduced an acknowledgment of the independency of the said colonies: and it is also, especially to the above intent, that their High Mightinesses having received a memorial presented to them by the English ambassador, full of the heaviest complaints against the governor of St. Eustatia, condescended to deliberate on the said memorial; though couched in terms little consonant with the regard which sovereign powers owe to each other: the consequence of the said deliberation was the immediate recall of the said governor, whom their High Mightinesses called to an account for his conduct, and who was not permitted to return to his residence till he had cleared himself of all the charges brought against him before a court of justice; a copy of whose proceedings was soon after transmitted to the minister of his Britannic Majesty.

By such measures as these their High Mightinesses, who always earnestly wished to avoid giving the smallest cause of discontent to his Britannic Majesty, have constantly endeavoured to promote and cultivate perfect harmony; but his Britannic Majesty's conduct towards the Republic has been diametrically opposite.

The differences between the Courts of London and Versailles had scarcely broken out, when they beheld the ports of England filled with Dutch vessels, which were unjustly seized and detained: these vessels navigated upon the faith of the treaties, and were not laden with any other merchandise than what the express tenor of the treaties had declared free and legal. They beheld those free cargoes forced to submit to an arbitrary and despotic authority. The cabinet at St. James's, knowing no other rule than an assumed right of temporary convenience, thought proper to appropriate those cargoes to the use of the crown by a forcible purchase, and to employ them in the service of the King's navy. The most earnest and serious representations on the part of their High Mightinesses against these proceedings were ineffectual, and it was in vain that they urged, in the strongest manner possible, the treaty subsisting between England and the Republic. By this treaty, the rights and liberties of the neutral flag are decisively and clearly stated. The subjects of Great Britain had fully enjoyed the advantages of this treaty, in the first and only case, wherein it pleased the Court of London to remain neuter, whilst the Republic was engaged in a war. Certainly then, in a reciprocal case, that court could not, without the greatest injustice, refuse the enjoyment of the same advantages to the Republic; and as little right as his Britannic Majesty had to

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withhold the advantageous effects of this treaty from their Hightinesses, he had as little foundation for attempting to make them quit the neutrality they had embraced, and to force them to plunge into a war, the cause of which related immediately to the rights and possessions of his Britannic Majesty lying beyond the limits of defensive treaties.---And notwithstanding this treaty, his Majesty, from the commencement of the difference with the crown of France, has made no scruple of infringing and violating it. The trespasses and fractions made on this treaty, on the part of Great Britain, and the arbitrary decisions of the courts of justice in that kingdom, directly contrary to the express sanction of the same treaty, multiplied daily. The merchant vessels became the innocent victims of the exactions and accumulated violences of the English men of war and privateers. They did not however rest there. The very flag of the States was not spared, but openly and outrageously insulted by a hostile attack upon the convoy, under the care of the Rear admiral Compte de Byland. The strongest representations from the States to his Britannic Majesty were disregarded, the ships taken from the convoy were declared good prizes, and this insult on the flag of the Republic was very soon followed by an open violation of their neutral territory, as well in Europe as America. They will content themselves, however, with reciting two examples.

At the island of St. Martin his Britannic Majesty attacked, and carried away by force, several vessels that lay at anchor under the cannon of the fort, where, according to the inviolable rights of mankind, the vessels ought to have found a secure asylum. The insults committed by an armed English vessel on the coast of the Republic, near Geederede, furnish a second example of these violations. These insults were carried so far, that many inhabitants of the island who dwelt on the shore, where they ought to have supposed themselves secure from any disturbance, were exposed, by the violence of the fire from the ships, to such imminent danger, that they were forced to retire to the interior part of the island. Yet, for these unheard of proceedings, the Republic, notwithstanding the strongest and best-founded representations, has not obtained the smallest satisfaction.

Affairs being thus situated, so that their High Mightinesses had no other alternative left them, but to see the navigation and commerce of their subjects, on which the ruin or prosperity of their Republic alone depends, totally annihilated, or else to adopt measures hostile to their old friend and ally; at this period the Empress of Russia, urged by a generous magnanimity of disposition, thought proper to interfere, and with

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as much affection as humanity invited the Republic to take the justest measures, and such too as were entirely consistent with the treaty subsisting between the States and other powers, for the defending and maintaining, in conjunction with her Imperial Majesty, and the other northern powers, those privileges and immunities which the rights of nations and the most solemn treaties allowed to neutral flags.

This invitation could not but be infinitely agreeable to their High Mightinesses, since they considered it as a means of securing the undisturbed commerce of their subjects upon the most solid basis, and as holding out a method of protecting their independence against every infraction, at the same time that it proposed nothing at all derogatory to the alliance contracted between them and his Britannic Majesty, or the other belligerent powers. But this was a measure of which the Court of London endeavoured to deprive the Republic, by proceeding, with precipitation to the most desperate extremities, by recalling their ambassador, by the publication of a manifesto, containing a list of fictitious grievances, and by granting letters of marque and pretended reprisal against the States, their subjects, and their property, by which violence, indeed, this Court did nothing more than clearly carry into proof and practice the designs which they have for a long time fostered, of dissolving all the true and essential interests which connect the two nations, and of destroying the bonds of their ancient amity by an attack so replete with injustice.

It will not be at all necessary to enter into an elaborate refutation of the reasons and pretended griefs which were alledged in the manifesto, to convince every impartial man of their entire want of solidity. It will be sufficient to observe, in few words, with respect to the offer which was made by his Britannic Majesty for opening an amicable conference, that the sole object of these conferences could only be this, to take into consideration the naval treaty spoken of above, that the construction of this treaty, conceived as it is, in terms the most clear and express, could not be a subject of any doubt or equivocation, that it gives the neutral powers a free right of conveying to the belligerent powers all kinds of naval stores; that the Republic, neither proposing any thing else to themselves, nor desiring any thing more of his Britannic Majesty than the quiet undisturbed enjoyment of rights stipulated in this treaty, a point so manifest and incontrovertibly equitable, could not perceive any reason or motive for a negotiation, or any other new convention, which must have been derogatory to the treaty in question, particularly as their High Mightinesses could not prevail upon themselves, nor experience the

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least disposition to renounce, voluntarily, rights justly acquired, nor to desist from their rights by a regard for the Court of England; a renunciation which, though advantageous to one of the belligerent powers, would be totally incompatible with the principles of neutrality, and by which their High Mightinesses would, from another quarter, have subjected the state to dangers which they think it is their duty most solemnly to avert; a renunciation also which would have carried with it a most irreparable injury to their commerce and navigation, which is the principal support of the Republic, and the source of all their prosperity: for the different branches of their commerce are severally so intimately connected with each other, so as to form one whole, that it is impossible to separate one part of so principal a nature as was expected by the Court of London, without the entire ruin and destruction of the general body; not to mention that at this time, when their High Mightinesses made a reasonable difficulty of acceding to the proposed conference, they yet qualified and tempered this effectual exercise of their rights by a provisional resolution.

As for the succours required, their High Mightinesses cannot dissemble, that they never could conceive how his Britannic Majesty thought himself justified to insist, under the most distant appearance of right or equity, for the assistance stipulated by the treaties, at the time when he had already forgone the obligation which they imposed on him towards the Republic. Their High Mightinesses were not less surprised to see that, whilst the disturbances in America, and their direct consequences, could not affect the Republic by virtue of any treaty, and that the assistance had not been required before the declaration of the Court of Spain had increased the number of the belligerent powers: his Britannic Majesty had nevertheless taken occasion, from this event, to insist on his demand with so much ardor and earnestness, as if his Majesty had a right to pretend and maintain, that, a war being once kindled between him and some other power, was alone sufficient to compel the States to grant directly, and without any previous examination, the said stipulated assistance.

The Republic, it is true, had bound itself by treaties to aid and assist the Kingdom of Great Britain, whenever that power should be attacked or threatened with an unjust war: the Republic was moreover to declare war in such a case against the aggressor; but their High Mightinesses never intended to give up that right which is the nature of a defensive alliance, and which cannot be disputed to the allied powers, to examine first, and before they grant the required assistance, or take part in the war, the principles of the dissensions which have prevailed;

vailed; the nature of the differences from which they ſprang; as alſo to inveſtigate and maturely weigh the reaſons and motives which may enforce the *Caſus Fœderis*, and which are to form the baſis of the equity and lawfulneſs of the war on the part of that confederate ſtate claiming the aforeſaid aſſiſtance. There is not a treaty extant, by which their High Mightineſſes have foregone the independence of the States, or ſacrificed their intereſts to thoſe of Great Britain, ſo far as to deprive themſelves of the right of ſo neceſſary and indiſpenſable an examination; by taking ſuch ſteps as might inſinuate, that they ſhould be looked upon as compelled to ſubmit to the pleaſure of Great Britain, by granting the required aſſiſtance; even when the above Court, being at variance with another power, thinks proper to prefer a war to an amicable accommodation on well-ſupported complaints.

It is not, therefore, through ſpirit of party, or the ſcheme of a predominant cabal, but, after a mature deliberation, and by a deſire of ſupporting the deareſt intereſts of the Republic, that all the provincial States reſpectively have, with one voice, teſtified they were of opinion, that the aſſiſtance required ſhould be politely refuſed; and their High Mightineſſes would not have failed to communicate to his Britannic Majeſty, in conſequence of thoſe reſolutions, an anſwer to the repeated requeſts for aſſiſtance, had they not been prevented from ſo doing by the violent and unprecedented inſult offered to the Dutch flag, under the command of Rear-admiral Byland; by their being refuſed redreſs on ſo ſerious a matter, and by his Majeſty's declaration, no leſs ſtrange than unjuſt, in regard to the ſuſpenſion of the treaties which ſubſiſted between him and the Republic. Theſe were ſo many events, which, as they required deliberations of a different kind, put an end to thoſe which were held in conſequence of the aforeſaid requiſitions. It is in vain, and in oppoſition to all truth, that endeavours have been uſed to multiply the number of grievances, by alledging the ſuppreſſion of duties on exports as a meaſure calculated to facilitate the carrying of naval ſtores over to France: for, beſides that the ſaid ſuppreſſion is an object which reſpects the interior regulation of commerce, to which all ſovereigns have an uncontroverted right, and for which they are accountable to no one. The matter has been put in deliberation, but never finally reſolved upon; ſo that thoſe duties are ſtill on the former footing; and what is ſet forth reſpecting this matter in the manifeſto is totally groundleſs, though it cannot be denied, that the conduct of his Britannic Majeſty towards the Republic furniſhed their High Mightineſſes

nesses with but too many motives to justify such a measure on their part.

The displeasure of his Britannic Majesty, in regard to what has been done for Paul Jones, is equally groundless. Their High Mightinesses had for many years before given general and positive orders for the admission into their ports, of all privateers and armed ships, with their prizes; orders which have been observed and executed without the least exception: in this case their High Mightinesses could not desist from such orders, in regard to an armed ship, which, provided with a commission from the American Congress, was in the Texel, together with the frigates of a sovereign power, without assuming the part of judges, and giving a decision in a matter which their High Mightinesses were not obliged to take any cognizance of, and in which it seems to them contrary to the interest of the Republic to interfere: their High Mightinesses, therefore, thought it best not to swerve from the rules established for so long a time, but resolved to lay the strongest injunctions, lest the said privateers and armed ships should take in any warlike stores. and desired them to quit the road as soon as possible, without being permitted to sojourn, but just as long as would prove absolutely necessary to repair the damages suffered at sea; declaring formally at the same time, that in case of a longer delay, their departure should be positively insisted upon. To this purpose, the commanding officer in the said road took care to make every requisite disposition, the effects of which the privateer of Paul Jones had hardly time to prevent. In regard to what has happened in other parts of the world, the informations transmitted to their High Mightinesses, from time to time, from the East Indies, are in direct opposition to those which seem to have been laid before his Britannic Majesty. The frequent complaints of the East India direction addressed to them, and which the love of peace had obliged the latter to smother, as it were, in their breasts, are so many incontrovertible proofs of the affection. The measures taken in regard to the West Indies, before mentioned, will serve at all times for an unquestionable proof of the sincerity of the zeal, and of the attention with which their High Mightinesses have assiduously endeavoured to observe, in these countries, the most exact and strict neutrality; nor could their High Mightinesses find out the least legal proof of any infraction of their orders in this respect.

As for what concerns the project of an eventual treaty of commerce with North America, framed by a member of the government of the province of Holland, without the sanction of any public authority; and the memorials presented on this

matter by the Chevalier Yorke, the matter happened as follows:

As soon as this ambassador had presented a memorial, dated Nov. 10, 1780, their High Mightinesses, without noticing the expressions, rather unbecoming between sovereigns, with which this memorial abounded, did not delay entering into the most serious deliberation on that matter; and by their resolution of the 27th of the same month, they did not hesitate to disclaim and disapprove publicly whatever had been done in this affair.

After this they had every reason to expect that his Britannic Majesty would have acceded to this declaration, since he could not be ignorant that their High Mightinesses have no jurisdiction over the respective provinces, and that it was to the States of Holland, to whom, as being invested, as the states of the other provinces, with a sovereign and exclusive authority over their subjects, was to be submitted, an affair which their High Mightinesses had no reason to doubt but the other states of the said provinces would regulate according to the exigency of the case, and conformably to the laws of the state, and the principles of equity. The eagerness with which the Chevalier Yorke, by his second memorial, insisted on the punishment, could not, of course, but appear very strange to their High Mightinesses, that if he did not receive the very same day an answer to his memorial in every respect satisfactory, he should find himself obliged to acquaint his court thereof by an extraordinary courier. Their High Mightinesses, informed of this declaration, soon perceived its importance, as a manifestation of the measures already determined on in the King's council; and although, according to the established custom, such verbal declarations from foreign ministers admit of no deliberation, they nevertheless thought proper to set it aside on this occasion, and to desire their recorder to wait on the Chevalier, and inform him, that his memorial had been taken *ad referendum*, by the deputies of the respective provinces, according to the received custom and constitution of government; adding at the same time, what seemed designedly omitted in the manifesto, that they would endeavour to frame an answer to his memorial as soon as possible, and the constitution of government would permit. In consequence thereof, a few days after, the deputies of the provinces of Holland gave notice to the assembly of their High Mightinesses, that the states of their province had *una voce*, resolved to require the advice of their court of justice in regard to the requisition of punishment, requesting the said court to give their opinion as soon as possible, foregoing all other affairs. Their High Mightinesses did not fail to acquaint the

the Chevalier Yorke with the above reſolve; but what was their ſurprize and aſtoniſhment, when they underſtood that the ſaid ambaſſador, after having read his inſtructions, had ſent a note to the recorder, wherein he called the above reſolve illuſive, and flatly refuſed to tranſmit it to his court! This obliged their High Mightineſſes to ſend it to Count Welderen, their miniſter at London, with orders to lay it immediately before the miniſter of his Britannic Majeſty; but the refuſal of the latter created an obſtacle to the execution of thoſe orders.

All the circumſtances of this affair being thus expoſed, the impartial public will be enabled to appreciate the principal motive, or rather pretence, to which his Britannic Majeſty has had recourſe, in order to give a ſcope to his deſigns againſt the Republic. To this we may reduce the whole matter: his Majeſty was informed of a negociation which would have taken place between a member of the government of one of the provinces, and a repreſentative of the American Congreſs; which negociation intended to lay the plan of a treaty of commerce to be concluded between the Republic and the ſaid colonies, *caſu quo*, that is to ſay, that in caſe the independency of thoſe colonies ſhould be acknowledged by the crown of England; this negociation, although conditional, and holding by a clauſe which depended on the anterior act of his Majeſty, this negociation, which without the ſaid act, or anterior declaration, could not have the leaſt effect, was miſconſtrued by his Majeſty, and excited his diſpleaſure to ſuch a degree, that he thought proper to require from the States a public diſavowal and diſapprobation as well as a complete puniſhment and ſatisfaction: it was in conſequence, and without the leaſt delay, that their High Mightineſſes acceded to the firſt part of his requiſition; but the puniſhment inſiſted upon was not within their power, and they could not aſſent to it, without ſtriking at the root of the fundamental conſtitution of the ſtate. The ſtates of the province of Holland were the only ones to which it pertained lawfully to take cognizance of it, and to provide thereto by the ordinary means and the authority of the laws. This ſovereign ſtate adhering to the maxims which oblige them to reſpect the authority of the laws, and fully convinced that the maintaining that department in all the integrity and impartiality which are inſeparable from it, is the firmeſt baſis of the ſupreme power; that ſovereign ſtate, obliged by what is held moſt ſacred, to defend and protect the rights and privileges of its ſubjects, could not forget itſelf ſo far as to ſubmit to the will of his Britannic Majeſty, by attempting to overturn thoſe rights and privileges, and exceeding the limits preſcribed by the fundamental laws of its government: theſe laws required the intervention

intervention of the judicial department, and those were the means which the above States resolved to use, by requiring on this object, the advice of the court of justice, established in their province.

By an adherence to this method it was, that, before the eyes of his Britannic Majesty, the English nation, and all Europe, were displayed the unalterable principles of that justice and equity which form the leading feature of the Dutch constitution, and which, in so important a part of public administration, (we mean that which concerns the exercise of the justiciary power) will for ever serve as a bulwark against whatever could militate with the security and independence of a free nation. It was also by these means, and by following this road, that, far from precluding justice, or evading the punishment required, a free course, on the contrary, has been laid open to a regular process, conformably to the constitutional principles of the Republic; and by the same reason, in short, depriving the Court of London of any pretence to complain of a denial of justice, care has been taken to anticipate the least shadow, or appearance of reason, which might have authorized that Court to make reprisals; to which, nevertheless, it has had recourse without scruple, in a manner equally odious and unjust.

To these ends, and since, after the repeated outrages and heavy losses which the subjects of this Republic must have experienced from his Britannic Majesty, their High Mightinesses find themselves furthermore provoked, and assailed by his aforesaid Majesty, and compelled to use those means which they have in hand, in order to defend the precious rights of their liberty and independence; they entertain the firmest hope that the Lord of Hosts, the God of their fathers, who, by the palpable direction of Providence, supported and carried this Republic through the greatest dangers, will bless the means which they have determined to employ, by crowning the justice of their arms with the ever-triumphant assistance of his Omnipotent protection; whilst their High Mightinesses will ardently sigh after the instant, when they shall see their neighbour and old ally, but now their enemy, recalled to sentiments more moderate and equitable. And it is at that period, where their High Mightinesses will improve all the opportunities which, consonant with the honour and independence of a free state, may tend to a reconciliation between them and their old friend and ally.

Thus given and settled in the assembly of their High Mightinesses our lords the States General of the United Provinces, at the Hague, the 10th day of March, 1781.

(Signed,) COCQ. HAAFTON, Vt.

By command, H. FAGEL.

Address

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, Jan. [illegible], 1781

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious message, and for having been pleased to communicate to this House your Majesty's public declaration, setting forth the causes and motives which have obliged your Majesty to direct letters of marque and general reprisals to be issued against the States General of the United Provinces, and their subjects.

We observe with much concern and just indignation, that the governing part of a nation, whom the ties of common interest, and the faith of mutual engagements, should have made a sincere friend, has employed the most hostile and pernicious means to annoy an ancient ally, by leaguing with your Majesty's revolted subjects, and furnishing constant and effectual aids to your inveterate enemies.

We acknowledge, with the highest satisfaction and warmest sentiments of gratitude, your Majesty's wisdom in endeavouring to bring the States General back to those principles which they have deserted, and in the reluctance you have shown to proceed to hostile measures against a state connected with this country by the closest ties of mutual interest. Your Majesty's great moderation and forbearance strongly aggravated their conduct, which made the present rupture indispensably necessary.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we shall, with the warmest and most dutiful zeal, give every support to those vigorous measures which your Majesty has determined to pursue. We are sensible they are founded in justice and wisdom, and are such as the honour of your Majesty's crown, and the essential interests of the nation require.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and affectionate address. I have the fullest reliance upon your support; and I trust that the vigorous exertions I am determined to make, will, under the providence of God, defeat the designs of all my enemies, and procure to my people the blessings of a safe and honourable peace.

Address

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Jan. 26, 1781.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our most humble thanks for your Majesty's most gracious message, and for having been pleased to communicate to this House your Majesty's public declaration, of the causes and motives which have obliged your Majesty to direct letters of marque and general reprisals to be issued against the States General of the United Provinces and their subjects.

Permit us, Sire, to assure your Majesty, that we take a most sincere part in the concern and regret which your Majesty expresses for the unavoidable necessity of hostile measures against the ancient friends and natural allies of your kingdom.

We acknowledge, with the warmest sentiments of gratitude, the wisdom and moderation of your Majesty's conduct, in using every endeavour before your Majesty proceeded to extremities, to prevail on the States General to revert to that system of sound policy which used to govern their councils in the best times of the Republic, and which formed and established her union with Great Britain, for the common interest and mutual safety of both countries.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons will, with a firm and determined resolution, support your Majesty against all your enemies, in the prosecution of this just and necessary war, for the maintenance of the honour of your crown, and for the rights and interests of your people.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

NOTHING could give me so much satisfaction as this very loyal and affectionate address. I return you my most cordial thanks for the zealous assurances of the continuance of your support; and I assure you, on my part, that I never called for that support except when I was convinced that it was essentially necessary for the welfare and security of my kingdoms, and for the maintenance of the honour of my crown, which I shall always consider as inseparably connected with the interests of my people.

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majeſty, July 18, 1781.

Sir,

YOUR Majeſty's faithful Commons have, in the courſe of the preſent ſeſſion, granted every ſupply which your Majeſty has aſked, in order to enable you to anſwer all the emergencies of the preſent criſis of public affairs, and to reſiſt effectually the unprovoked confederacy which has been formed againſt this country and, although in the raiſing of thoſe ſupplies they have done every thing in their power to render them as little burthenſome to the people as poſſible, and have found the reſources of this country equal to every demand which has been made upon it, yet, as the burthens which the neceſſity of the times obliged them to impoſe were great indeed, however cheerfully impoſed, his Majeſty's faithful Commons truſt, that his Majeſty's humanity and wiſdom will take care, that the ſupplies they have ſo liberally granted ſhall be applied only to the purpoſes for which they have been voted.

Sir,

I have the ſatiſfaction to inform you, that during the preſent ſeſſion your faithful Commons have paid particular attention to the ſupport and extenſion of public credit, and the improvement of the public revenues, in order to be the better prepared to ſtrengthen your Majeſty's arms, and enable them to anſwer the future exigencies of affairs.

Sir,

I have in my hand the laſt of the bills which make up the ſupply of the current year. It is an act for enabling your Majeſty to enlarge the charter of the united company of merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, and for ſecuring to your Majeſty, for public uſe, the four hundred and two thouſand pounds; which bill I moſt dutifully preſent from your faithful Commons, who humbly entreat that it may receive your Majeſty's royal approbation.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, July 18, 1781.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

ALTHOUGH the buſineſs of this ſeſſion has required a longer attendance than may have been conſiſtent with your private convenience, yet I am perſuaded that you look back with ſatisfaction on the time you have employed in a faithful

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discharge of your duty to your country, in the present arduous and critical state of public affairs.

I cannot let you depart into your respective counties, without assuring you of my entire approbation of your conduct, and of my perfect confidence in the loyalty and good affections of this Parliament.

The zeal and ardour which you have shown for the honour of my crown, your firm and steady support of a just cause, and the great efforts you have made to enable me to surmount all the difficulties of this extensive and complicated war, must convince the world that the ancient spirit of the British nation is not abated or diminished.

In the midst of these difficulties, you have formed regulations for the better management and improvement of the revenue; you have given additional strength and stability to public credit; and your deliberations on the affairs of the East India Company have terminated in such measures as will, I trust, produce great and essential advantages to my kingdoms.

I have observed, with much satisfaction, that during the course of that important business, your attention was not more anxiously directed to the benefits to be derived from the territorial acquisitions than to the happiness and comfort of the inhabitants of those remote provinces.

Whatever may remain to be done for securing those valuable possessions, and for restraining the abuses to which they are peculiarly liable, you will, I doubt not, proceed to provide for at your next meeting, with the same wisdom and temper that have governed your late proceedings and inquiries.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

My particular thanks are due to you for the ample provision you have made for the service of the current year. I see with great pleasure that you have had it in your power to apply so large a sum to the discharge of the debt of the navy, and that the supplies which you have granted have been raised in a manner the least burthensome to the property and industry of my faithful people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

While I lament the continuance of the present troubles, and the extension of the war, I have the conscious satisfaction to reflect that the constant aim of all my councils has been to bring back my deluded subjects in America to the happiness and liberty they formerly enjoyed, and to see the tranquillity of Europe restored,

To

To defend the dominions, and to maintain the rights of this country, was, on my part, the sole cause, and is the only object of the war. Peace is the earnest wish of my heart; but I have too firm a reliance on the spirit and resources of the nation, and the powerful assistance of my Parliament, and the protection of a just and all-ruling Providence, to accept it upon any other terms or conditions than such as may consist with the honour and dignity of my crown, and the permanent interest and security of my people.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the thirteenth day of September next, to be then there holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the thirteenth day of September next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 27, 1781.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WHEN I last met you in Parliament, I acquainted you with the arduous situation of public affairs at that time, and I represented to you the objects which I had in view, and the resolution with which I was determined to persevere in the defence of my dominions against the combined powers of my enemies, until such a pacification could be made, as might consist with the honour of my crown, and the permanent interest and security of my people. The war is still unhappily prolonged by that restless ambition which first excited our enemies to commence it, and which still continues to disappoint my earnest desire and diligent exertion to restore the public tranquillity: but I should not answer the trust committed to the sovereign of a free people, nor make a suitable return to my subjects for their constant, zealous, and affectionate attachment to my person, family, and government, if I consented to sacrifice, either to my own desire of peace, or to their temporary ease and relief, [illegible] essential rights, and permanent interests, upon the maintenance and preservation of which the [illegible] and security of this country must ever principally [illegible]

[illegible] appearance of our affairs in the East Indies, [illegible] arrival of the numerous com[illegible] kingdoms, must have given you satisfaction;

tion; but in the course of this year, my assiduous endeavours to guard the extensive dominions of my crown have not been attended with success equal to the justice and uprightness of my views; and it is with great concern that I inform you, that the events of war have been very unfortunate to my arms in Virginia, having ended in the loss of my forces in that province.

No endeavours have been wanting on my part to extinguish that spirit of rebellion which our enemies have found means to foment and maintain in the colonies, and to restore to my deluded subjects in America that happy and prosperous condition which they formerly derived from a due obedience to the laws; but the late misfortune in that quarter calls loudly for your firm concurrence and assistance, to frustrate the designs of our enemies, equally prejudicial to the real interests of America, and to those of Great Britain.

In the last session you made a considerable progress in your inquiries into the state and condition of our dominions and revenues in the East Indies: you will, I am persuaded, resume the prosecution of that important deliberation with the same spirit and temper in which it was begun, and proceed with the same attention and anxiety to consider how those remote provinces may be held and governed with the greatest security and advantage to this country, and by what means the happiness of the native inhabitants may be best promoted.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I will order the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you. I rely on your wisdom and public spirit for such supplies as the circumstances of our affairs shall be found to require. Among the many ill consequences which attend the continuation of the present war, I most sincerely regret the additional burthens which it must unavoidably bring upon my faithful subjects.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

In the prosecution of this great and important contest in which we are engaged, I retain a firm confidence in the protection of divine Providence, and a perfect conviction of the justice of my cause; and I have no doubt but that, by the concurrence and support of my Parliament, by the valour of my fleets and armies, and by a vigorous, animated, and united exertion of the faculties and resources of my people, I shall be enabled to restore the blessings of a safe and honourable peace to all my dominions.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Nov. 27, 1781.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

It is with equal concern and indignation that we see the war prolonged by that restless ambition which first excited your Majesty's enemies to commence it, and which still continues to disappoint your Majesty's earnest desire and diligent exertion to restore the public tranquillity.

We acknowledge, with the sincerest and warmest gratitude, your Majesty's wisdom and constant attention to the real welfare of your people, equally conspicuous in your earnest desire of peace, and in your fixed and unalterable resolution never to sacrifice, either to that desire, or to the temporary ease and relief of your subjects, those essential rights and permanent interests, upon the maintenance and preservation of which the future strength and security of this country must ever principally depend.

We feel great satisfaction in the favourable appearance of our affairs in the East Indies, and in the safe and prosperous arrival of the numerous commercial fleets of these kingdoms; but we regret, that in the course of this year your Majesty's assiduous endeavours to guard the extensive dominions of your crown have not been attended with success equal to the justice and uprightness of your Majesty's views; and we lament that the events of war have been so unfortunate to your Majesty's arms in Virginia.

We are gratefully sensible of the paternal solicitude your Majesty has shewn for the general happiness of your people, in the endeavours your Majesty has used to extinguish that spirit of rebellion which our enemies have found means to foment and maintain in the Colonies, and to restore to your deluded subjects in America that happy and prosperous condition which they formerly derived from a due obedience to the laws; and we beg leave to assure your Majesty of our firm concurrence and assistance to frustrate the designs of our enemies, equally prejudicial to the real interests of America, and to those of Great Britain.

We will, without loss of time, resume the deliberation upon the state and condition of the British possessions and revenues in the East Indies, will carry it on with the same spirit and temper in which it was begun, and proceed with the same attention

tention and anxiety to consider how those remote provinces may be held and governed with the greatest security and advantage to this country, and by what means the happiness of the native inhabitants may be best promoted.

Firmly resolved to decline no difficulty or hazard in the defence of our country, and for the preservation of its essential rights and interests, we shall continue to give our most hearty concurrence and support in the prosecution of the great and important contest in which we are engaged.

We rely upon the protection of divine Providence in so just a cause, and fully trust, that, by the concurrence and support which we shall most cheerfully give, by the valour of your Majesty's fleets and armies, and by the vigorous, animated, and united exertions of the faculties and resources of your people, your Majesty will be enabled to disappoint the ambitious designs of your enemies, and restore the blessing of a safe and honourable peace to all your dominions.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and affectionate address. The assurances of your cheerful concurrence and support in the prosecution of the great and important contest in which we are engaged, give me the highest satisfaction, and must have the most salutary effects. It shall be my most constant endeavour to make the best use of this support for the attainment of the sole end which I have ever in view, a safe and honourable peace.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 27, 1781.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty the thanks of this House for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We assure your Majesty, that we see with concern that the war is still unhappily prolonged by that restless ambition which first excited our enemies to commence it, and which still continues to disappoint your Majesty's earnest desire and diligent exertion to restore the public tranquillity.

We are sensibly affected by your Majesty's paternal expressions of concern for the real welfare of your subjects; and we receive with the strongest emotions of duty and gratitude your Ma-

Majesty's gracious and endearing declaration, that you should not answer the trust committed to the sovereign of a free people, nor make a suitable return to your subjects for their constant, zealous, and affectionate attachment to your person, family, and government, if you consented to sacrifice, either to your own desire of peace, or to their temporary ease and relief, those essential rights and permanent interests, upon the maintenance and preservation of which the future strength and security of this country must ever principally depend.

We declare, on our part, that we know no means of making to your Majesty any return so suitable and so just, and of answering the great trust committed to us by those whom we represent, as by giving your Majesty this firm assurance, that we are resolved to assist and support your Majesty, to the utmost of our power, in maintaining and preserving the essential rights and permanent interests of your crown and people.

The favourable appearance of affairs in the East Indies, and the safe and prosperous arrival of the numerous commercial fleets of your kingdoms, have given us great satisfaction: but we sincerely regret, that your Majesty's assiduous endeavours to guard your extensive dominions have not in all places been attended with success, and we learn with the deepest concern, that the events of war have been very unfortunate to your Majesty's arms in Virginia, and have ended in the loss of your forces in that province.

We are fully persuaded that the principal view of the confederacy of our enemies was to foment and maintain the rebellion in North America; and, under the specious delusion of the establishment of an independent empire, to render your Majesty's colonies subservient to the power and influence of the crown of France: but your Majesty may rely on our steady assistance to second your Majesty's endeavours to defeat the dangerous designs of our enemies, equally prejudicial to the real interests of America, and to those of Great Britain.

We will not fail to resume the great and momentous consideration of the state and condition of the dominions and revenues which this country possesses in the East Indies; and we trust that, in our deliberations on those important matters, we shall proceed with the same spirit and temper in which they were begun, and with the same care and anxiety to consider how those remote provinces may be held and governed with the greatest security and advantage to this nation, and by what means the happiness of the native inhabitants may be best promoted.

In this arduous conjuncture, we consider it as our first duty to our country to grant your Majesty such supplies as the circumstances

cumſtances of affairs ſhall be found to require. We cannot but feel that the war is burthenſome and expenſive; but we are convinced at the ſame time that it is juſt and neceſſary; and nothing on our part ſhall be wanting to give efficacy and ſucceſs to the valour of your Majeſty's fleets and armies, and we ſtill have a firm confidence, that, by a vigorous, animated, and united exertion of the reſources and faculties of the nation, and the ſpirit of a free people, your Majeſty will be enabled, under the protection of divine Providence, to reſtore the bleſſings of a ſafe and honourable peace to all your dominions.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my moſt cordial thanks for this very loyal, dutiful, and affectionate addreſs.

It breathes the ſpirit and firmneſs of a brave and free people. Nothing could afford me ſo much ſatisfaction, or tend ſo effectually to the public ſafety and welfare in this critical ſituation.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Commons, Feb. 27, 1782,

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, moſt humbly to repreſent to his Majeſty, that the further proſecution of offenſive war on the continent of North America, for the purpoſe of reducing the revolted colonies to obedience by force, will be the means of weakening the efforts of this country againſt her European enemies, tends, under the preſent circumſtances, dangerouſly to increaſe the mutual enmity ſo fatal to the intereſts both of Great Britain and America, and by preventing an happy reconciliation with that country, to fruſtrate the earneſt deſire graciouſly expreſſed by his Majeſty to reſtore the bleſſings of public tranquillity.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

THERE are no objects nearer to my heart than the eaſe, happineſs, and proſperity of my people.

You may be aſſured, that in purſuance of your advice, I ſhall take ſuch meaſures as ſhall appear to me to be moſt conducive to the reſtoration of harmony between Great Britain and the revolted colonies, ſo eſſential to the proſperity of both, and that

my

my efforts ſhall be directed in the moſt effectual manner againſt our European enemies, until ſuch a peace can be obtained as ſhall conſiſt with the intereſts and permanent welfare of my kingdoms.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Commons, March 4, 1782,

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, to return his Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe, for his moſt gracious anſwer to their addreſs preſented to his Majeſty on Friday laſt; and for the aſſurances his Majeſty has moſt graciouſly been pleaſed to give them of his intention, in purſuance of the advice of this Houſe, to take ſuch meaſures as ſhall appear moſt conducive to the reſtoration of harmony between Great Britain and the revolted colonies; and that his efforts ſhall be directed in the moſt effectual manner againſt our European enemies, until ſuch a peace can be obtained as ſhall conſiſt with the permanent welfare and proſperity of his kingdoms. This Houſe being convinced that nothing can, in the preſent circumſtances of this country, ſo eſſentially promote thoſe great objects of his Majeſty's paternal care for his people, as the meaſures which his faithful Commons have moſt humbly but earneſtly recommended to his Majeſty.

Meſſage from his Majeſty to the Houſe of Commons, April 9, 1782.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majeſty being concerned to find that diſcontents and jealouſies are prevailing among his loyal ſubjects in Ireland, upon matters of great weight and importance, earneſtly recommends to this Houſe to take the ſame into their moſt ſerious conſideration, in order to ſuch a final adjuſtment as may give mutual ſatisfaction to both kingdoms.

G. R.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Commons, April 9, 1782,

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty to return his Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe for his moſt gracious meſſage; and to aſſure his Majeſty that this Houſe, feeling with his Majeſty the deepeſt concern that diſcontents and jealouſies ſhould have ariſen among his Majeſty's loyal ſubjects in Ireland, will, without delay, take the ſame into their moſt ſerious conſideration, in order to ſuch a final adjuſtment as may give mutual ſatisfaction to both kingdoms.

Meſſage

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, April 15, 1782.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty taking into consideration the supplies which have been given with so much liberality, and supported with such uncommon firmness and fortitude by his people in the present extensive war, recommends to his faithful Commons the consideration of an effectual plan of œconomy through all the branches of the public expenditure; towards which important object, his Majesty has taken into his actual consideration a reform and regulation in his civil establishment, which he will shortly cause to be laid before this House, desiring their assistance towards carrying the same more fully into execution. His Majesty has no reserves with his people, on whose affections he rests with a sure reliance, as the best support of the true honour and dignity of his crown and government; and as they have hitherto been his best resource upon every emergency, so he regards them as the most solid and stable security for an honourable provision for his person and family.

G. R.

Resolved by the House of Commons, April 15, 1782,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to express to his Majesty that his truly paternal regard for the welfare of the people, meets a just return in the gratitude produced in the breasts of his faithful Commons, by his Majesty's most gracious message to this House.

To assure his Majesty that his favourable acceptance of the zeal and fidelity of his subjects, manifested throughout the whole course of this arduous war, will animate them to the utmost exertions for the glory and happiness of a prince who sets a just value on the services, and is touched with an affectionate sympathy in the sufferings of his people.

That his faithful Commons, deeply affected with his Majesty's noble and generous procedure, and encouraged by a recommendation, at once glorious to his Majesty, and perfectly consonant to our desires and duties, will, as soon as his Majesty shall be pleased to communicate more particularly the reformations and regulations he is pleased to adopt, apply ourselves with all speed and diligence to give a full effect to his Majesty's most gracious intentions.

That his faithful Commons consider the unreserved confidence which his Majesty reposes in this House, as a full compensation for their earnest and dutiful endeavours to deserve that invaluable

invaluable testimony of his royal favour; a confidence by which his Majesty will reign in the hearts of his people, and in which he can never be deceived with regard to his crown, his person, and his family. A King of Great Britain cannot have so perfect or so honourable security for every thing which can make a King truly great and truly happy, as in the genuine and natural support of an uninfluenced and independent House of Commons.

Message from his Majesty to both Houses of Parliament, May 2, 1782.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty has found with concern, that notwithstanding the two several payments of the civil list debt, and the subsequent increase of the civil list revenue, a considerable debt is since incurred, his Majesty therefore desires the advice and aid of the House of Lords, as to the mode of discharging that debt, and preventing the like in future, without laying any new burthen on his people, whom it is ever his wish as much as possible to relieve.

For these purposes his Majesty lays before the House the plan of reform which he has judged proper to make in his establishment, to be perfected by the wisdom of Parliament, for the honour of the crown, and the public benefit.

G. R.

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, May 2, 1782,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return his Majesty the dutiful acknowledgments of this House for his most gracious message, and for the communication his Majesty has been pleased to make of the plan of reform he has executed in his establishments; and to assure his Majesty, that this House will concur in all measures which shall appear expedient for effecting the wise and beneficial purposes which his Majesty has had in view of this plan of reform, for the honour of his crown and the public; fully trusting that so bright an example will be productive of the most salutary effect, by infusing a similar spirit of œconomy throughout every branch of the public expenditure.

Resolved

Refolved by the Houfe of Commons, May 2, 1782,

THAT an humble addrefs be prefented to his Majefty, to affure his Majefty that this Houfe, affected with the moft grateful fenfe of his Majefty's goodnefs in defiring the advice of this Houfe with regard to the difcharge of the debt affecting his civil lift revenue, and for preventing the like in future, without any new burthen on his people, will take into immediate confideration his Majefty's moft gracious meffage; and thath is faithful Commons will apply themfelves without delay, to find the beft means of providing for the difcharge of the debt on the civil lift, and will ufe their beft endeavours to give ftability and effect to the reform which his Majefty has been gracioufly pleafed to make in his eftablifhments, for the honour of the crown and the public benefit; and that this Houfe, in imitation of fuch an example, will hold themfelves particularly bound to make every exertion in their power to eftablifh a ftrict œconomy in all the branches of the public expenditure.

Lord John Cavendish presented to the House of Commons, by his Majesty's Command, May 2, 178[illegible],

AN ACCOUNT of the several Sums which were due and unpaid at the Receipt of the Exchequer, for the Exp[illegible] of his Majesty's Civil Government, on the 5th Day of April, 1782, as near as the same can at present be ascertained [illegible] Money applicable towards discharging the same, and the Debt remaining unprovided for, viz.

	£	s.	d.
To her Majesty the Queen, on 50,000l. per annum	12,500	0	0
To his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, on 20,204*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* per annum	5,051	3	1
To defray incidental expences for his said Royal Highness	[illegible]616	[illegible]	0
For the Princes Frederick, William, Edward, Ernest Augustus, and Adolphus	2,750	0	0
To defray incidental expences for the said Princes	981	11	2
To the Duke of Cumberland, on 9,000*l.* per annum	2,250	0	0
For pensions to the servants of the late Queen	749	11	0
For pensions to the servants of the late Princess Dowager of Wales	6,260	8	0
To the cofferer of his Majesty's houshold	75,656	11	8[illegible]
To the treasurer of the chamber	35,40[illegible]	15	4
To the master of the great wardrobe	15,[illegible]	12	7
For his Majesty's works and gardens	49,742	0	3
For the extraordinaries of his Majesty's stables	4,[illegible]6	6	11
To his Majesty's goldsmith, for plate	799	3	4
For the master of the robes	1,765	7	8
To foreign ministers on their ordinary and extraordinary allowances	42,202	2	0
For fees and salaries to officers, payable at the exchequer; and also for pensions and annuities payable at do.	80,518	16	1
For pensions and bounties paid by Lord Gage	46,[illegible]06	9	7
To the band of gentlemen pensioners	3,000	0	0
To the secretaries of state, for secret service	2,250	0	0
To the secretary of the post-office, do.	1,784	16	0
Carried over	394,244	0	6¾

CONTINGENCIES of divers Natures viz.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Brought over				394,244	0	6¾
To the King's printer	3,770	7	6			
For incidents of the board of trade, by estimate	1,500	0	0			
To the usher of the court of exchequer	245	14	4			
To the usher of the receipt of exchequer	18,237	8	3¼			
To do. for pay of watchmen	108	0	0			
To Ben. Schaller, for necessaries furnished the treasury	120	0	0			
For rent for the privy-seal office	51	6	9			
For do. for secretary of state's office	155	12	6			
For do. of Mote Park	161	15	0			
For do. of Cumberland House	316	18	6			
To the under clerk of the council	100	0	0			
For Chelsea water	26	7	0			
To sundry sheriffs, for conviction of felons, &c.	1,740	0	0			
To Thomas Sandby, for disbursements in Windsor Forest, by estimate	2,400	0	0			
To Sir Henry Clinton, one of the commissioners for restoring peace to America	5,357	15	6			
To Admiral Digby, another for do.	5,357	15	6			
				39,649	0	10¾
Carried over				433,893	1	5

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Brought over				433,893	1	5
Towards satisfying the above sums, there remained in the exchequer on the 5th of April	40,743	1	11$\frac{1}{2}$			

To which adding the money paid out of the civil list, to be replaced out of the supplies granted for 1782; viz.

	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Sundry payments on addresses — —	8,908	9	1$\frac{1}{4}$						
To Mr. Duncan Campbell, for confining, maintaining, and employing convicts on the river Thames — —	14,719	4	0						
And the sum paid to Milward Rowe, Esquire, before the 5th of April, 1782, for the relief and support of sundry civil officers who have suffered on account of their attachment to his Majesty's government	73,704	8	0						
				97,332	1	1$\frac{1}{4}$			
							138,075	3	0$\frac{3}{4}$
Which being deducted, will leave the debt to be provided for on the 5th of April, 1782							295,817	18	4$\frac{1}{4}$

Lord John Cavendish presented to the House of Commons, by his Majesty's Command, May 2, 1782,

ABSTRACT of a PLAN for relieving his Majesty's Civil List from its present Burthens, and for preventing the Increase of its Debt.

Offices suppressed.	*How supplied.*	*Amount of Saving.*	£.
1st.	1st.		
The office of third secretary of state.	The duty to be done as heretofore by the other two principal secretaries of state.	Estimated at .	7,500

Offices suppressed.	*How supplied.*	*Amount of Saving.*	
		Brought over	7,500
2d. Board of Trade.	2d. Duty to be done by a committee of the privy council, as it was done before the institution of the present board of trade.	Somewhat more than . .	12,600
3d. Lords of Trade and Police in Scotland.	3d. This board has no duties to be transferred.	. . . .	6,600
4th. Board of Works.	4th. This duty to be executed, so far as regards buildings, by the comptroller of his Majesty's buildings; so far as it regards gardens, by an officer to be called surveyor or comptroller of his Majesty's gardens—Persons actually professing the arts of building, and improving ground	. . . .	7,462
5th. Great Wardrobe.	5th. Duties to be executed by the direction of the lord chamberlain	. . . . .	3,506
6th. Jewel Office.	6th. Duties to be executed by the direction of the lord chamberlain.	About (besides fees)	2,000
		Carried over	39,668

Offices suppressed.	*How supplied.*	*Amount of Saving.*	£.
		Brought over	39,668
7th. Treasurer of the Chamber.	7th. Payments to be made at the exchequer.	Savings not yet exactly ascertained—The chief profits of this office in fees on payments, but those fees being saved, saves so much to the civil list: it may be about . .	3,000
8th. Cofferer of the household.	8th. Payments to be made at the exchequer.	Ditto of the cofferer, about	3,000
9th. Six clerks of the board of green cloth to be abolished.	9th. Their duties to be executed by the master of the household, with proper official officers under him.		8,000
		The other savings, not brought to account, as it is not yet possible to estimate them, but they must be considerable, when once the subordinate detail of office is regulated. That advantage cannot be immediate.	
10th. The department of the master of the horse to be regulated.	10th.		
		Carried over	53,668

Offices suppressed.	*How supplied.*	*Amount of saving.*	
		Brought over	53,668
11th. Pensions not to exceed a certain sum, and paymaster of the pensions to be suppressed.	11th. All pensions to be paid at the exchequer. The future amount of pensions to be limited.	About - - -	1,200
		Besides fees, amounting per ann. to about - -	1,500
12th. The office of master of the harriers, and also the office of master of the stag-hounds.	12th.	- - - -	3,000
13th. The whole present establishment of the Mint, with all the offices dependent thereon.	13th. To be provided for by contract with the governor of the Bank, or otherwise, proper attention being given that the value of the coin is not endangered by the arrangement.	- - - -	3,000
		Besides fees, amounting on an average to per ann. and upwards	10,000
14th. Band of gentlemen pensioners to be regulated.	14th. To be composed in future of officers on half-pay.	No saving; but will have a more respectable appearance, besides being an encouragement to the military service.	
			72,368

That an invariable order of payments shall take place, which it shall not be lawful for the lords of the treasury to depart from. The payments are to be classed. The first class (in regard to dignity) to be his Majesty's expences, and those of the royal family. The other classes to be arranged as may best preserve the punctuality necessary for his Majesty's honour, and the cheapness of the supply, which is always the result of punctual payment.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 11, 1782.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE unwearied assiduity with which you have persevered in the discharge of your duty in Parliament during so long a session, bears the most honourable testimony to your zeal and industry in the service of the public, for which you have provided with the clearest discernment of its true interests, anxiously opening every channel for the return of peace, and furnishing with no less vigilance the means of carrying on the war, if that measure should be unavoidable.

The extensive powers with which I find myself invested to treat for reconciliation and amity with the colonies which have taken arms in North America, I shall continue to employ in the manner most conducive to the attainment of those objects, and with an earnestness suitable to their importance.

The zeal which my subjects in Ireland have expressed for the public service, shows that the liberality of your proceeding towards them is felt there as it ought, and has engaged their affections, equally with their duty and interest in the common cause.

The diligence and ardour with which you have entered upon the consideration of the British interests in the East Indies, are worthy of your wisdom, justice, and humanity. To protect the persons and fortunes of millions in those distant regions, and to combine our prosperity with their happiness, are objects which amply repay the utmost labour and exertion.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my particular thanks for the very liberal supplies which you have granted with so much cheerfulness and zeal for the service of the current year. I reflect with extreme regret upon the heavy expence which the circumstances of public affairs unavoidably call for. It shall be my care to husband your means to the best advantage, and, as far as depends on me, to apply that œconomy which I have endeavoured to set on foot in my civil establishment to those more extensive branches of public expenditure, in which still more important advantages may be expected.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The important successes, which, under the favour of divine Providence, the valour of my fleet in the West Indies hath obtained, promise a favourable issue to our operations in that quarter.

quarter. The events of war in the East Indies have also been prosperous. Nothing, however, can be more repugnant to my feelings than the long continuance of so complicated a war.

My ardent desire of peace has induced me to take every measure which promised the speediest accomplishment of my wishes; and I will continue to exert my best endeavours for that purpose. But if, for want of a corresponding disposition in our enemies, I should be disappointed in the hope I entertain of a speedy termination of the calamities of war, I rely on the spirit, affection, and unanimity of my Parliament and people, to support the honour of my crown and the interests of my kingdoms; not doubting that the blessing of Heaven, which I devoutly implore upon our arms, employed as they are in our just and necessary defence, will enable me to obtain fair and reasonable terms of pacification. The most triumphant career of victory would not excite me to aim at more; and I have the satisfaction to be able to add, that I see no reason which should induce me to think of accepting less.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the 3d day of September next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the 3d day of September next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, December 5, 1782.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

SINCE the close of the last session, I have employed my whole time in the care and attention which the important and critical conjuncture of public affairs required of me.

I lost no time in giving the necessary orders to prohibit the further prosecution of offensive war upon the continent of North America. Adopting, as my inclination will always lead me to do, with decision and effect, whatever I collect to be the sense of my Parliament and my people, I have pointed all my views and measures, as well in Europe as in North America, to an entire and cordial reconciliation with those colonies.

Finding it indiſpenſable to the attainment of this object, I did not heſitate to go the full length of the powers veſted in me, and offered to declare them free and independent States, by an article to be inſerted in the treaty of peace. Proviſional articles are agreed upon, to take effect whenever terms of peace ſhall be finally ſettled with the Court of France.

In thus admitting their ſeparation from the crown of theſe kingdoms, I have ſacrificed every conſideration of my own to the wiſhes and opinion of my people. I make it my humble and earneſt prayer to Almighty God, that Great Britain may not feel the evils which might reſult from ſo great a diſmemberment of the empire; and that America may be free from thoſe calamities which have formerly proved in the mother country, how eſſential monarchy is to the enjoyment of conſtitutional liberty. Religion, language, intereſt, affections may, and I hope will, yet prove a bond of permanent union between the two countries: to this end, neither attention nor diſpoſition on my part ſhall be wanting.

While I have carefully abſtained from all offenſive operations in America, I have directed my whole force by land and ſea againſt the other powers at war, with as much vigour as the ſituation of that force, at the commencement of the campaign, would permit. I truſt that you feel the advantages reſulting from the ſafety of the great branches of our trade. You muſt have ſeen, with pride and ſatisfaction, the gallant defence of the governor and the garriſon of Gibraltar; and my fleet, after having effected the object of their deſtination, offering battle to the combined force of France and Spain on their own coaſts; thoſe of my kingdoms have remained at the ſame time perfectly ſecure, and your domeſtic tranquillity uninterrupted. This reſpectable ſtate, under the bleſſing of God, I attribute to the entire confidence which ſubſiſts between me and my people, and to the readineſs which has been ſhown by my ſubjects in my city of London, and in other parts of my kingdoms, to ſtand forth in the general defence. Some proofs have lately been given of public ſpirit in private men, which would do honour to any age and any country.

Having manifeſted to the whole world, by the moſt laſting examples, the ſignal ſpirit and bravery of my people, I conceived it a moment not unbecoming my dignity, and thought it a regard due to the lives and fortunes of ſuch brave and gallant ſubjects, to ſhow myſelf ready on my part to embrace fair and honourable terms of accommodation with all the powers at war

I have the ſatisfaction to acquaint you that negociations to this effect are conſiderably advanced, the reſult of which, as

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ſoon as they are brought to a concluſion, ſhall be immediately communicated to you.

I have every reaſon to hope and believe, that I ſhall have it in my power in a very ſhort time to acquaint you, that they have ended in terms of pacification, which, I truſt, you will ſee juſt cauſe to approve. I rely, however, with perfect confidence on the wiſdom of my Parliament, and the ſpirit of my people, that if any unforeſeen change in the diſpoſitions of the belligerent powers ſhould fruſtrate my confident expectations, they will approve of the preparations I have thought it adviſeable to make, and be ready to ſecond the moſt vigorous efforts in the further proſecution of the war.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have endeavoured, by every meaſure in my power, to diminiſh the burthens of my people. I loſt no time in taking the moſt decided meaſures for introducing a better economy into the expenditure of the army.

I have carried into ſtrict execution the ſeveral reductions in my civil liſt expences, directed by an act of the laſt ſeſſion. I have introduced a further reform into other departments, and ſuppreſſed ſeveral ſinecure places in them. I have, by this means, ſo regulated my eſtabliſhments, that my expence ſhall not in future exceed my income.

I have ordered the eſtimate of the civil-liſt debt, laid before you laſt ſeſſion, to be completed. The debt proving ſomewhat greater than could be then correctly ſtated, and the propoſed reduction not immediately taking place, I truſt you will provide for the deficiency, ſecuring, as before, the re-payment out of my annual income.

I have ordered inquiry to be made into the application of the ſum voted in ſupport of the American ſufferers, and I truſt that you will agree with me, that a due and generous attention ought to be ſhown towards thoſe who have relinquiſhed their properties or profeſſions from motives of loyalty to me, or attachment to the mother country.

As it may be neceſſary to give ſtability to ſome regulations by act of Parliament, I have ordered accounts of the ſeveral eſtabliſhments, incidental expences, fees, and other emoluments of office, to be laid before you. Regulations have already taken place in ſome, which it is my intention to extend to all, and which, beſides expediting all public buſineſs, muſt produce a very conſiderable ſaving, without taking from that ample encouragement which ought to be held forth to talents, diligence, and integrity, wherever they are to be found.

 I have

I have directed an inquiry to be made into whatever regards the landed revenue of my crown, as well as the management of my woods and forests, that both may be made as beneficial as possible, and that the latter may furnish a certain resource for supplying the navy, our great national bulwark, with its first material.

I have directed an investigation into the department of the mint, that the purity of the coin, of so much importance to commerce, may be always adhered to; that, by rendering the difficulty of counterfeiting greater, the lives of numbers may be saved, and every needless expence in it suppressed.

I must recommend to you an immediate attention to the great objects of the public receipts and expenditure; and, above all, to the state of the public debt. Notwithstanding the great increase of it during the war, it is to be hoped that such regulations may still be established, such savings made, and future loans so conducted, as to promote the means of its gradual redemption by a fixed course of payment. I must, with particular earnestness, distinguish for your serious consideration, that part of the debt which consists of navy, ordnance, and victualling bills; the enormous discount upon some of these bills shews this mode of payment to be a most ruinous expedient.

I have ordered the several estimates, made up as correctly as the present practice admits, to be laid before you. I hope that such further corrections as may be necessary will be made before the next year. It is my desire that you should be apprised of every expence before it is incurred, as far as the nature of each service can possibly admit. Matters of account can never be made too public.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The scarcity and consequent high price of corn requires your instant interposition.

The great excess to which the crimes of theft and robbery have arisen, in many instances, accompanied with personal violence, particularly in the neighbourhood of this metropolis, has called of late for a strict and severe execution of the laws. It were much to be wished that these crimes could be prevented in their infancy, by correcting the vices become prevalent in a most alarming degree.

The liberal principles adopted by you concerning the rights and the commerce of Ireland, have done you the highest honour, and will, I trust, ensure that harmony which ought always to subsist between the two kingdoms. I am persuaded that a general increase of commerce throughout the empire

will prove the wisdom of your measures with regard to that object. I would recommend to you a revision of our whole trading system upon the same comprehensive principles, with a view to its utmost possible extension.

The regulation of a vast territory in Asia opens a large field for your wisdom, prudence, and foresight. I trust that you will be able to frame some fundamental laws which may make their connection with Great Britain a blessing to India; and that you will take therein proper measures to give all foreign nations, in matters of foreign commerce, an entire and perfect confidence in the probity, punctuality, and good order of our government. You may be assured that whatever depends upon me shall be executed with a steadiness which can alone preserve that part of my dominions, or the commerce which arises from it.

It is the fixed object of my heart to make the general good, and the true spirit of the constitution, the invariable rule of my conduct, and on all occasions to advance and reward merit in every profession.

To insure the full advantage of a government conducted on such principles depends on your temper, your wisdom, your disinterestedness, collectively and individually.

My people expect these qualifications of you; and I call for them.

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, Dec. 6, 1782.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

It is with the sincerest gratitude we acknowledge the sacrifice which your Majesty has been graciously and affectionately pleased to make to the wishes and opinions of your people, fully convinced that your Majesty's own conduct has always been actuated by a similar disposition; we acknowledge, likewise, your Majesty's constant care and attention to the true interests of your people and the critical state of public affairs, since the last session of Parliament; and in a particular manner for your Majesty having been graciously pleased to direct your measures towards promoting a cordial reconciliation between Great Britain and America.

Per-

Permit us, Sir, to express our great satisfaction that your Majesty, in the exercise of the powers which were vested in you, has laid the foundation of a peace with that country, and that you have actually agreed upon articles to take effect when the terms with the Court of France shall be finally settled, thereby affording to your people a reasonable expectation of being delivered from the burthens of a most expensive war, as well as to unite our hopes with your Majesty's, that religion, language, interests, and affection, may yet be the means of effecting a permanent union between the two countries; to obtain which purpose, so highly laudable, our earnest endeavours shall not be wanting.

Your Majesty may be assured we are sensible of the important advantages resulting from the successful exertions of your Majesty's fleets, owing to the skill and bravery of your officers, and those serving under them, in protecting your distant colonies and settlements, as well as the great branches of our trade; and that we are impressed with a due sense of what is owing to the spirit and good conduct of your Majesty's governor and garrison of Gibraltar.

We set a just value on the continuance of our domestic tranquillity, and shall always reflect with peculiar satisfaction on the signal instances of public spirit called forth by the occasion.

We learn, with great joy, that a considerable progress is made in the negociations for a general peace, at a moment so suitable to your Majesty's dignity; and we cannot omit to acknowledge the paternal regard your Majesty has shown for the lives and fortunes of your brave and gallant subjects.

We return your Majesty our hearty thanks for your gracious promise to communicate to us the terms with the several belligerent powers as soon as they are concluded; and we give your Majesty the strongest assurances, that if any unforeseen change in the dispositions of those powers should disappoint your Majesty's confident expectations of peace, we will most cheerfully exert our utmost endeavours to assist your Majesty in a vigorous prosecution of the war.

We will not omit, on our parts, to apply ourselves, with the most unremitting attention, to the several important points which your Majesty has been pleased to mention, and to consider of the most effectual means for remedying the evils which may be apprehended from the present scarcity of corn; and for preventing, as far as possible, the crimes of theft and robbery, which have lately prevailed to a very alarming height.

We

We beg leave to expreſs our ſatisfaction at the meaſures which have been adopted with reſpect to Ireland, for ſecuring its rights and commerce, which, we truſt, will have the effect of enſuring that harmony which ought always to ſubſiſt between the two kingdoms; and we do aſſure your Majeſty we ſhall be ready to direct our attention to a reviſion of our whole trading ſyſtem, guided by the ſame liberal principles which your Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to commend.

We are deeply impreſſed with a ſenſe of the important ſubject which the ſtate of our national concerns in the Eaſt Indies offers for our moſt ſerious deliberation; and your Majeſty may be perſuaded, we have a due impreſſion of your royal goodneſs, in thus extending your anxious regard to the good government of the diſtant territories in Aſia, and to the welfare and happineſs of the people there: we will, in return, ſhow ourſelves zealous to anſwer your Majeſty's gracious expectations, by aſſiſting to frame ſome fundamental laws which may make their connection with Great Britain a bleſſing to India, and may give to other nations, in matters of foreign commerce, an entire confidence in the probity, juſtice, and good order of the Britiſh government.

Allow us to expreſs, in the moſt fervent and grateful manner, our warmeſt gratitude for your Majeſty's gracious aſſurances that you will make the general good, and the true ſpirit of the conſtitution, the invariable rule of your Majeſty's conduct, and that you will, on all occaſions, advance and reward merit in every profeſſion.

Your Majeſty may rely, with the utmoſt confidence, that every meaſure will be adopted on our part to ſecure the full advantages of a government conducted on ſuch principles.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

THIS very affectionate and loyal addreſs affords me the higheſt ſatisfaction.

Your approbation of the foundation I have laid for a peace between Great Britain and America, and of the meaſures I have taken towards a general pacification, as well as the earneſt zeal which you have ſo unanimouſly expreſſed for carrying on the war with vigour, if the negociations ſhould unexpectedly break off, muſt be attended with the beſt effects, both at home and abroad.

Your

Your affectionate acknowledgment of my constant disposition to make my own conduct conformable to the wishes and opinions of my people, touches me most sensibly.

Upon that principle, I can never regret the sacrifice I make of every consideration of my own.

I accept, with pleasure, your assurances of support to a government conducted on principles equally agreeable to my own honour and the public good.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, Dec. 7, 1782.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty the thanks of this House for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We beg leave to acknowledge, with sincere and hearty thanks, your Majesty's royal care and attention to the important and critical state of public affairs since the last session, and particularly for having been graciously pleased to direct your measures to promote a cordial reconciliation between Great Britain and America.

Permit us to express to your Majesty our satisfaction that your Majesty, in the exercise of the powers which were vested in your Majesty, has laid the foundation of a peace with that country, and has actually agreed upon articles to be concluded whenever terms are finally settled with the Court of France. We most ardently wish that religion, language, interests, and affection, may yet prove the bond of permanent union between the two countries.

We are impressed with a due sense of the advantages resulting from the safety of the great branches of our trade, and of the happy success which we owe to the spirit of your Majesty's governor and garrison of Gibraltar, and to the skill and bravery of your Majesty's fleet: and we reflect, with peculiar pleasure, on the uninterrupted continuance of our domestic tranquillity, and the signal instances of public spirit which the situation of the country has called forth.

We rejoice to learn that advances have been made towards a general pacification, at a moment so suitable to your Majesty's dignity and to your gracious and parental regard to the lives of your Majesty's brave and gallant subjects.

We desire to thank your Majesty for having promised to acquaint us, as soon as the terms are concluded; and to assure your Majesty of our resolution to take every measure to second the

the moſt vigorous efforts in the further proſecution of the war, if any unforeſeen change in the diſpoſitions of the belligerent powers ſhould fruſtrate your Majeſty's confident expectations of peace.

We are anxious to offer the warmeſt return of gratitude to your Majeſty for your gracious diſpoſition to diminiſh the burthens of your people, and to aſſure your Majeſty that your faithful Commons will, as they ought, moſt zealouſly co-operate in ſuch meaſures as may be neceſſary to give ſtability to regulations for that purpoſe. We will cheerfully provide for the deficiency of the ſum granted laſt year for the diſcharge of the debt on your Majeſty's civil liſt.

We will apply ourſelves, with the moſt ſerious attention, to the many important points which your Majeſty is pleaſed to recommend to our conſideration: we will do every thing in our power to remedy the evils which may be apprehended from the general ſcarcity of corn, to put a ſtop to the alarming exceſs of theft and robbery, and the cauſes from which thoſe crimes originate; and to lay the foundation of a gradual redemption of the public debt, by a fixed courſe of payment.

We recollect, with great ſatisfaction, thoſe liberal meaſures adopted with regard to the rights and commerce of Ireland, which will, we truſt, inſure the harmony which ought always to ſubſiſt between the two kingdoms. And we ſhall be ready to conſider of ſuch a general reviſion of our trading ſyſtem as may, in the preſent circumſtances, be wiſe and expedient.

We are truly ſenſible of the neceſſity of framing ſuch regulations as are adapted to the ſituation of affairs in the Eaſt Indies: and we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that it will be our great object, in all our deliberations, to manifeſt that temper and thoſe principles which your Majeſty is pleaſed to inculcate, and which are required of us by the duty we owe to your Majeſty, to our conſtituents, and to ourſelves.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you thanks for this loyal and dutiful addreſs.

I am happy to receive your aſſurances of ſatisfaction, on being acquainted that articles have been agreed upon with America, to take effect whenever terms of peace ſhall be finally ſettled with the Court of France; and that, while you rejoice to learn that advances have been made towards a general pacification, you are, at the ſame time, reſolved to ſecond the

the moſt vigorous efforts in the further proſecution of the war, if any unforeſeen change in the diſpoſition of the belligerent powers ſhould fruſtrate my confident expectations of peace.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Lords, Feb. 17, 1783,

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, to return his Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe for his gracious condeſcenſion in ordering to be laid before us the preliminary articles of the different treaties which his Majeſty hath concluded, and to aſſure his Majeſty that we have conſidered them with that attention which ſo important a ſubject requires.

To expreſs in the moſt grateful manner to his Majeſty our ſatisfaction that his Majeſty has, in conſequence of the powers entruſted to him, laid the foundation by the proviſional articles with the States of North America, for a treaty of peace, which, we truſt, will inſure perfect reconciliation and friendſhip between both countries.

That, in this confidence, we preſume to expreſs to his Majeſty our juſt expectation, that the ſeveral States of North America will carry into effectual and ſatisfactory execution thoſe meaſures which the Congreſs is ſo ſolemnly bound by the treaty, to recommend in favour of ſuch perſons as have ſuffered for the part which they have taken in the war, and that we conſider theſe circumſtances as the ſureſt indication of returning friendſhip; and to acknowledge to his Majeſty our due ſenſe of that wiſe and paternal regard for the happineſs of his ſubjects, which induced his Majeſty to relieve them from that burdenſome and expenſive war by the preliminary articles of peace concluded between his Majeſty and the Moſt Chriſtian and Catholic Kings.

To aſſure his Majeſty that we ſhall encourage and promote every exertion of his ſubjects of Great Britain and Ireland, in the cultivation and improvement of thoſe reſources which muſt tend to the certain augmentation of our public ſtrength, and that with theſe views we ſhall moſt diligently turn our attention to the reviſion of all our commercial laws, and endeavour to frame them upon ſuch liberal principles as may beſt extend our trade and navigation, and proportionably increaſe his Majeſty's naval power, which can alone inſure the proſperity of his kingdoms.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Answer, Feb. 18, 1783.

My Lords,

I RECEIVE with pleasure this dutiful address, and have great satisfaction in observing that the preliminary and provisional articles appear to you, as they do to me, to afford a reasonable prospect of such a peace, as will relieve my people from any burdens beyond what the expences of the war have rendered unavoidable, and, if properly improved, will insure the national prosperity. These are always objects next my heart, and every measure which has the tendency to promote them cannot but be acceptable to me. It is my firm purpose to execute every article of the treaties, on my part, with that good faith which has ever distinguished the conduct of this nation.

I concur with you most entirely on the just expectation you entertain of the like attention in North America to the stipulations in favour of the unfortunate sufferers by the war; which are founded in humanity and justice, and now recognised by public engagement. I do not entertain a doubt, that this and every other article in the treaties depending will be finally settled and performed by the other powers with that spirit of liberality and justice which becomes them.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Feb. 17, 1783,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return his Majesty our most humble thanks, for having been graciously pleased to lay before us the articles of the different treaties which his Majesty has concluded; and to assure his Majesty, that his faithful Commons will proceed to consider the same with that serious and full attention which a subject of such importance to the present and future interests of his Majesty's dominions deserves: that, in the mean time, they entertain the fullest confidence in his Majesty's paternal care, that he will concert with his Parliament such measures as may be expedient for extending the commerce of his Majesty's subjects: and his Majesty's faithful Commons feel that it would be superfluous to express to his Majesty the regards due from this nation to every description of men, who with the risk of their lives, and the sacrifice of their properties, have distinguished their loyalty and fidelity during a long and calamitous war.

That

That whatever may be the sentiments of his faithful Commons on the result of their investigation of the terms of pacification, they beg leave to assure his Majesty of their firm and unalterable resolution to adhere inviolably to the several articles for which the public faith is pledged, and to maintain the blessings of peace, so necessary to his Majesty's subjects, and the general happiness of mankind.

Resolved by the House of Commons, March 6, 1783,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, most humbly to represent to his Majesty, that whereas his Majesty has, from his paternal regard to the welfare of his people, and his desire to avoid imposing any new burden upon the public, been graciously pleased to suppress the several offices mentioned in his Majesty's message to this House in the last session of Parliament, and has likewise given his royal assent to an act for carrying the said most gracious design into full execution; and for regulating the granting of pensions and preventing all abuses or excess therein: this House trusts, that the same restrictions will be observed in respect to any pension his Majesty may be advised to order to be granted, antecedent to the fifth day of April, as by the said act are thenceforth strictly and absolutely prescribed.

Resolved by the House of Commons, March 24, 1783

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, that his Majesty will be graciously pleased to take into his serious consideration the very distracted and unsettled state of the empire, after a long and exhausting war; and that his Majesty would therefore condescend to a compliance with the wishes of this House, by forming an administration entitled to the confidence of his people, and such as may have a tendency to put an end to the unfortunate divisions and distractions of the country.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

THAT it was his earnest desire to do every thing in his power to comply with the wishes expressed by his faithful Commons.

Resolved

Resolved by the House of Commons, June 6, 1783,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to acquaint his Majesty that this House, in consequence of his Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne, has bestowed constant attention to the scarcity and high price of corn, and that, notwithstanding the several salutary laws already made in the present session of Parliament for the relief of the poor, the effects of the scarcity and high price of corn are still severely felt by many of his Majesty's loyal subjects; that it appears, from evidence brought before this House, that the inhabitants of the Highlands, and northern parts of Scotland in particular, have suffered most severely from the lateness of the last harvest, whereby their corn while green was covered with straw, and in many places was not gathered in till the month of December, and then in very bad condition, that the crop of potatoes, on which the said inhabitants principally depend for support, was also destroyed by the frost; and that many of the said inhabitants, being thereby reduced to indigence, will either be constrained to migrate, or exposed to the danger of perishing for want of food, unless timely measures be devised for their relief, that the distresses occasioned by famine being generally most extreme in the summer months immediately preceding the new harvest, when this House may not be sitting, most humbly beseech his Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to give such directions, as may tend most effectually to avert the evils that are to be apprehended from the above calamitous state of the northern parts of Scotland, and to assure his Majesty, that this House will make good, out of the first aids that shall be granted by Parliament, such expences as shall be incurred by his Majesty in relieving the misery to which his Majesty's unhappy subjects may be reduced by this most deplorable calamity.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, June 23, 1783.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty, reflecting on the propriety of a separate establishment for his dearly beloved son the Prince of Wales, recommends the consideration thereof to this House; relying on the experienced zeal and affection of his faithful Commons for such aid towards making that establishment, as shall appear consistent with a due attention to the circumstances of his

his people, every addition to whose burdens his Majesty feels with the most sensible concern. G. R.

Substance of Mr. Speaker's Speech to his Majesty, July 16, 1783.

THAT he had brought with him three bills, which were the last his Majesty's faithful Commons had voted in their committee of supply, and with which, with all humility, they desire his royal concurrence. He said, the Commons had granted the large and liberal supplies that had been asked with great cheerfulness, and in perfect confidence that his Majesty would direct them to be applied to the public service with that spirit of œconomy, by a due attention to which alone the affairs of the kingdom could be rendered prosperous at home and respectable abroad. He observed, that peace having been concluded, a great part of the public expences were necessarily ceased. His Majesty's faithful Commons, he said, had turned their attention, in the course of the session, to the affairs of the East Indies; and he trusted, that the progress they had made in the business promised, if the subject was resumed and attended to with the same zeal and assiduity next session, ultimately to produce essential and permanent advantages to both countries.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 16, 1783.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE advanced season of the year requires some remission from your long and laborious attention to the public service. The exigencies of that service may oblige me to call you together again at an early period; and I persuade myself, from my uniform experience of your affection to me, and your zeal for the public good, that you will cheerfully submit to a temporary inconvenience for the permanent advantage of your country.

The consideration of the affairs of the East Indies will require to be resumed as early as possible, and to be pursued with a serious and unremitting attention.

I expected to have had the satisfaction of acquainting you, before the end of the session, that the terms of pacification were definitively settled, but the complicated state of the business in discussion has unavoidably protracted the negotiation. I have, however, every reason to believe, from the dispositions shewn by the several powers concerned, that they are perfectly well

well inclined to such a conclusion as may secure the blessings of peace, so much and so equally to be desired by all parties.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the supplies you have so liberally granted for the public service; for facilitating my arrangements towards a separate establishment for the Prince of Wales; and for enabling me, without any new burden on my people, to discharge the debt which remained on my civil list.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I earnestly recommend to you an attention towards promoting among my people, in your several counties, that spirit of order, regularity, and industry, which is the true source of revenue and power in this nation, and without which all regulations for the improvement of the one, or the increase of the other, will have no effect.

The Earl of Mansfield, as Speaker of the House of Lords, then said:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the 9th day of September next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the 9th day of September next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 11, 1783

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE the satisfaction to inform you, that definitive treaties of peace have been concluded with the Courts of France and Spain, and the United States of America. Preliminary articles have been also ratified with the States General of the United Provinces. I have ordered these several treaties to be laid before you; and am happy to add, that I have no cause to doubt but that all those powers agree with me in my sincere inclination to keep the calamities of war at a great distance.

The objects which are to be brought under your deliberation will sufficiently explain my reasons for calling you together after so short a recess. Inquiries of the utmost importance have been long and diligently pursued, and the fruit of them will be expected. The situation of the East India Company will require the utmost exertions of your wisdom, to maintain and

improve the valuable advantages derived from our Indian poſſeſſions, and to promote and ſecure the happineſs of the native inhabitants of thoſe provinces.

The ſeaſon of peace will call upon you for an attention to every thing which can recruit the ſtrength of the nation, after ſo long and ſo expenſive a war. The ſecurity and increaſe of the revenue, in the manner leaſt burdenſome to my ſubjects, will be amongſt your firſt objects. In many eſſential parts it has ſuffered; dangerous frauds have prevailed; and alarming outrages have been committed. Exertions have not been wanting to repreſs this daring ſpirit, nor pains to inquire into its true cauſes. In any inſtances in which the powers of government may not be equal to its utmoſt care and vigilance, I have no doubt that the wiſdom of Parliament will provide ſuch remedies as may be found wanting for the accompliſhment of purpoſes in which the material intereſts of this nation are ſo deeply concerned.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the eſtimates of the expences of the year to be laid before you. From thoſe you will perceive the reduction which I have made in all the eſtabliſhments, which appear to me to be brought as low as prudence will admit; and you will participate with me in the ſatisfaction which I feel in this ſtep towards the relief of my ſubjects. At the end of a war ſome part of its weight muſt inevitably be borne for a time. I feel for the burdens of my people; but I rely on that fortitude which has hitherto ſupported this nation under many difficulties, for their bearing thoſe which the preſent exigencies require, and which are ſo neceſſary for the full ſupport of national credit.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

In many reſpects our ſituation is new. Your councils will provide what is called for by that ſituation; and your wiſdom will give permanence to whatever has been found beneficial by the experience of ages. In your deliberations you will preſerve that temper and moderation which the importance of their objects demands, and will, I have no doubt, produce; and I am ſure that you are unanimous in your deſire to direct all thoſe deliberations to the honour of my crown, the ſafety of my dominions, and the proſperity of my people.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, Nov. 12, 1783.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our moſt humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

With the moſt reſpectful affection to your royal perſon and family, we beg leave to offer our ſincere congratulations on the birth of another princeſs, and happy recovery of the Queen. Truly ſenſible of the bleſſings we enjoy under your Majeſty's moſt auſpicious government, we rejoice at every event that can add to your Majeſty's domeſtic happineſs.

We congratulate your Majeſty on the ſucceſs of your endeavours to reſtore the public tranquillity. We return your Majeſty our moſt humble thanks for having ordered the definitive treaties with the Courts of France and Spain, and with the United States of America, and the preliminary articles ratified with the States General of the United Provinces, to be laid before us; and we aſſure your Majeſty, that we learn with the greateſt ſatisfaction, that all thoſe powers agree with your Majeſty in your ſincere inclinations to keep the calamities of war at a great diſtance.

We humbly and thankfully acknowledge your Majeſty's royal regard to the general welfare of your Majeſty's dominions, in having called your Parliament together at this early ſeaſon; and we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty that the moſt diligent attention ſhall be given by us to thoſe objects which wait our deliberation.—The ſituation of the Eaſt India Company will require our immediate conſideration; and we beg your Majeſty to be aſſured that we will uſe our utmoſt endeavours to maintain and improve the valuable advantages derived from our Indian poſſeſſions, and to ſecure the happineſs of the native inhabitants of thoſe provinces.

Animated by your Majeſty's example, and by the love of our country, we ſhall take the earlieſt advantage of the ſeaſon of peace, to direct our councils to every thing that can recruit the ſtrength of the nation after ſo long and ſo expenſive a war; and while we expreſs the grateful ſenſe we entertain of your Majeſty's paternal care, in recommending the ſecurity and increaſe of the revenue in the manner the leaſt burdenſome to your people, we ſhall be happy to co-operate in whatever may be found expedient for thoſe ſalutary purpoſes, or may tend to counteract thoſe frauds, and to repreſs that ſpirit of outrage, which have been ſo alarmingly prevalent.

 We

We humbly intreat your Majesty to be persuaded that our utmost assiduity shall be employed in providing what is called for by the present situation of this country; and that in our labours for that purpose, we shall not only use the utmost caution in regard to whatever the experience of past times has shown to be beneficial, but shall endeavour, to the extent of our abilities, to make all such benefits permanent.

It will be our duty to preserve that temper and moderation in our deliberations which your Majesty has been pleased to recommend, and which the importance of their objects will demand; and we shall be anxious not to neglect any opportunity of meriting the good opinion your Majesty has graciously expressed of our unanimous desire to secure and promote the honour of your Majesty's crown, the safety of your dominions, and the prosperity of your people.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this dutiful and loyal address. I receive with pleasure your congratulations on the birth of a princess, and the recovery of the Queen, as renewed proofs of your affection to my person and family. The assurances you give me of your attention to the objects recommended for the welfare of my subjects, are highly acceptable; and I regard the unanimity with which they are offered, as an earnest of the success which, I trust, will attend your endeavours to establish the honour of my crown, and the prosperity of my people.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 13, 1783.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne.

Affectionately and dutifully interested in whatever concerns your Majesty's domestic happiness, we beg leave to offer our most sincere congratulations on the birth of another princess, and to express our unfeigned joy at the happy recovery of the Queen.

We are gratefully sensible of the paternal regard for the welfare of your people, which has induced your Majesty to conclude

clude definitive treaties of peace with the Courts of France and Spain, and the United States of America, and to ratify preliminary articles with the States General of the United Provinces; and we beg your Majesty to accept our most humble thanks for having graciously ordered those several treaties to be laid before us. We have great satisfaction in learning that your Majesty has no cause to doubt but that all those powers agree in sincere inclination with your Majesty to keep the calamities of war at a great distance.

We entertain a just sense of the importance of the objects which demand our attention; and we acknowledge, with thanks, the anxious solicitude for the public good which has induced your Majesty to give us, thus early, an opportunity of taking them into consideration. Your faithful Commons are sensible that the fruits of those inquiries, which they have so long pursued, are now justly expected, and that the situation of the East India Company claims our utmost exertions to provide, in the most effectual manner, for the maintenance and improvement of the valuable advantages derived from our Indian possessions, and to promote and secure the happiness of the native inhabitants of those provinces.

The season of peace will call for our attention to every thing which can recruit the strength of the nation, after so long and so expensive a war.

We acknowledge your Majesty's paternal goodness in recommending such means of increasing and securing the public revenue, as may be least burdensome to your subjects. The frauds which have prevailed in many of its most essential parts, as well as the outrages which have been committed, are truly alarming; and we have the fullest confidence that no exertions have been wanting to repress this daring spirit, nor pains to inquire into its true causes. In those instances in which the powers of government may not be found equal to its utmost care and vigilance, we shall use our utmost endeavours to provide such remedies as may apply to this evil, and such means as may be found wanting to the accomplishment of purposes in which our material interests are so deeply concerned.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that your faithful Commons will cheerfully grant your Majesty such supplies as may be found necessary for the service of the year; acknowledging, with the utmost gratitude, your Majesty's immediate attention to the relief of your subjects, in the reduction of all the establishments to as low a state as your Majesty, in your royal wisdom, thought prudence would admit. We take a sincere part in the satisfaction which your Majesty feels in this step towards the relief of your subjects; and we have no doubt

that your people will justify your Majesty's gracious reliance on the fortitude of this nation, by willingly bearing those burdens, which are the inevitable consequences of the war, which the present exigencies require, and which are so necessary for the full support of the national credit.

We feel that our situation is, in many respects, new; and we beg your Majesty to be assured, that we shall use our utmost diligence to provide what is called for by that situation; at the same time, to the extent of our power, giving permanence to whatever has been found beneficial by the experience of ages.

The objects of our deliberations fully demand that temper and moderation which your Majesty so graciously recommends; and we entreat your Majesty to accept our most humble thanks for the confidence your Majesty has been pleased to express in our unanimous desire to direct all those deliberations to the honour of your Majesty's crown, the safety of your dominions, and the prosperity of your people; and we assure your Majesty, that we will use our best and utmost endeavours to demonstrate by our conduct, that a confidence so honourable to us has been well founded.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and affectionate address, and for the fresh mark you give of your attachment to me and my family, in your congratulations on the happy recovery of the Queen, and the birth of another princess

I receive, with the utmost satisfaction, your assurances of promoting such measures as may tend to the support of the national credit, and to the welfare of my people; and I consider the unanimity with which they are offered as a happy earnest of the success of your endeavours.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Oct. 22, 1783.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, think ourselves bound in duty humbly to represent to your Majesty, that alarming reports of an intended dissolution of Parliament have gone forth.

Your Majesty's faithful Commons, dutifully acknowledging the wisdom of the constitution, in trusting to the crown that

juſt and legal prerogative, and fully confiding in your Majeſty's royal wiſdom and paternal care of your people, for the moſt beneficial exerciſe of it, deſire, with great humility, to repreſent to your Majeſty the inconveniences and dangers which appear to them, from a conſideration of the ſtate of the nation, likely to follow from the prorogation or diſſolution of the Parliament, in the preſent arduous and critical conjuncture of affairs. The maintenance of the public credit, and the ſupport of the revenue, demand the moſt immediate attention. The diſorders prevailing in the government of the Eaſt Indies, at home and abroad, call aloud for inſtant reformation; and the ſtate of the Eaſt India Company's finances, from the preſſing demands upon them, require a no leſs immediate ſupport and aſſiſtance from Parliament.

Your Majeſty's faithful Commons are at preſent proceeding with the utmoſt diligence upon theſe great objects of government, as recommended to their attention by your Majeſty's gracious ſpeech from the throne, but which muſt neceſſarily be fruſtrated and diſappointed by the delay attending a diſſolution, and moſt eſpecially the affairs of the Eaſt Indies, by the aſſembling of a new Parliament, not prepared by previous inquiry to enter with equal effect upon an object involving long and intricate details, which your Majeſty's faithful Commons have inveſtigated for two years paſt with the moſt laborious, earneſt, and unremitting attention.

Your Majeſty's faithful Commons, deeply affected by theſe important conſiderations, impreſſed with the higheſt reverence and affection for your Majeſty's perſon and government, and anxious to preſerve the luſtre and ſafety of your government, do humbly beſeech your Majeſty to ſuffer your faithful Commons to proceed on the buſineſs of the ſeſſion, the furtherance of which is ſo eſſentially neceſſary to the proſperity of the public; and that your Majeſty will be graciouſly pleaſed to hearken to the advice of your faithful Commons, and not to the ſecret advice of particular perſons who may have private intereſts of their own, ſeparate from the true intereſt of your Majeſty and your people.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

IT has been my conſtant object to employ the authority entruſted to me by the conſtitution, to its true and only end, the good of my people: and I am always happy in concurring with the wiſhes and opinions of my faithful Commons. I agree

agree with you in thinking that the support of the public credit and revenue must demand your most earnest and vigilant care. The state of the East Indies is also an object of as much delicacy and importance as can exercise the wisdom and justice of Parliament. I trust you will proceed in these considerations with all convenient speed, after such an adjournment as the present circumstances may seem to require; and I assure you that I shall not interrupt your meeting, by any exercise of my prerogative, either of prorogation or dissolution.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Dec. 24, 1783,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, that he will be most graciously pleased not to grant the office of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, for any other term than during pleasure, before the 20th day of January next.

To which his Majesty was pleased to make the following most gracious Answer:

THAT he will comply with the wishes of his faithful Commons.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Feb. 3, 1784,

THAT it is the opinion of this House, that the present arduous and critical situation of public affairs requires the exertions of a firm, efficient, extended, united administration, entitled to the confidence of the people, and such as may have a tendency to put an end to the unfortunate divisions and distractions of this country.

That it is the opinion of this House, that the continuance of the present ministers in their offices, is an obstacle to the formation of such an administration as may enjoy the confidence of this House, and tend to put an end to the unfortunate divisions and distractions of the country.

IT was then resolved, That the said resolutions be humbly laid before his Majesty.

Joint Addreſs by both Houſes to the King, Feb. 6, 1784.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament aſſembled, acknowledge, with great ſatisfaction, the wiſdom of our happy conſtitution, which places in your Majeſty's hand the undoubted authority of appointing to all the great offices of executive government. We have the firmeſt reliance in your Majeſty's known wiſdom and paternal goodneſs, that you will always be anxious to call into, and continue in your ſervice, men the moſt deſerving of the confidence of your Parment, and the public in general.

In this confidence, we beg leave to approach your Majeſty with our moſt earneſt aſſurances, that we will upon all occaſions ſupport your Majeſty in the juſt exerciſe of thoſe prerogatives which the wiſdom of the law has entruſted to your Majeſty, for the preſervation of our lives and properties, and upon the due and uninterrupted exerciſe of which muſt depend the bleſſings which your people derive from the beſt of all forms of government.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this dutiful and loyal addreſs, and I deſire you will reſt aſſured that I have no object in the choice of miniſters, but to call into my ſervice men the moſt deſerving of the confidence of my Parliament, and of the public in general. I cannot too often repeat my aſſurances, that my conſtant ſtudy in the exerciſe of every prerogative entruſted to me by the conſtitution, is to employ it for the welfare of my people.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Commons to his Majeſty, Feb. 20, 1784.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt faithful Commons, impreſſed with the moſt dutiful ſenſe of your Majeſty's paternal regard for the welfare of your people, approach your throne, to expreſs our reliance on your Majeſty's paternal wiſdom; that your Majeſty will take ſuch meaſures, by removing any obſtacles to forming ſuch an adminiſtration as the Houſe has declared to be requiſite in the preſent critical and arduous ſituation of affairs; it

it may tend to give effect to the wishes of your faithful Commons, which have already been most humbly represented to your Majesty.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer, Feb. 27, 1784.

Gentlemen,

I AM deeply sensible how highly it concerns the honour of my crown, and the welfare of my people, which is the object always nearest my heart, that the public affairs should be conducted by a firm, efficient, united, and extended administration, entitled to the confidence of my people, and such as may have a tendency to put an end to the unhappy divisions and distractions in this country. Very recent endeavours have already been employed on my part to unite in the public service, on a fair and equal footing, those whose joint efforts appear to me most capable of producing that happy effect: these endeavours have not had the success I wished. I shall be always desirous of taking every step most conducive to such an object; but I cannot see that it would in any degree be advanced by the dismission of those at present in my service.

I observe at the same time that there is no charge or complaint suggested against my present ministers, nor is any one or more of them specifically objected to; and numbers of my subjects have expressed to me in the warmest manner their satisfaction in the late changes I have made in my councils. Under these circumstances I trust my faithful Commons will not wish that the essential offices of executive government should be vacated until I see a prospect that such a plan of union as I have called for, and they have pointed out, may be carried into effect.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, March 1, 1784.

WE, your Majesty's faithful Commons, approach your throne, most humbly to represent to your Majesty the satisfaction your faithful Commons derive from the late most gracious assurances we have received, that your Majesty concurs with us in opinion, that it concerns the honour of your crown, and the welfare of your people, that the public affairs should be conducted by a firm, efficient, extended, united administration, entitled to the confidence of your people, and such as may have a tendency to put an end to the unhappy divisions and distractions of this country.

We

We acknowledge your Majesty's paternal goodness in your late most gracious endeavours to give effect to the object of our late dutiful representation to your Majesty.

We lament that the failure of these your Majesty's most gracious endeavours should be considered as a final bar to the accomplishing so salutary and desirable a purpose, and to express our concern and disappointment, that your Majesty has not been advised to take any further step towards uniting in the public service those whose joint efforts have recently appeared to your Majesty most capable of producing so happy an effect.

Your faithful Commons with all humility claim it as their right, and on every proper occasion feel it to be their bounden duty, to advise your Majesty touching the exercise of any branch of your royal prerogative.

We submit it to your Majesty's royal consideration that the continuance of an administration which does not possess the confidence of the representatives of the people must be injurious to the public service.

We beg leave further to say, that your faithful Commons can have no interest distinct and separate from that of our constituents, and that we, therefore, feel ourselves called upon to repeat those loyal and dutiful assurances we have already expressed of our reliance on your Majesty's paternal regard for the welfare of your people, that your Majesty would graciously enable us to execute those important trusts which the constitution has vested in us, with honour to ourselves and advantage to the public, by the formation of a new administration, appointed under circumstances which may tend to conciliate the minds of your faithful Commons, and give energy and stability to your Majesty's councils.

Your Majesty's faithful Commons, upon the maturest deliberation, cannot but consider the continuance of the present ministers as an unsurmountable obstacle to your Majesty's most gracious purpose, to comply with our wishes in the formation of such an administration as your Majesty, in concurrence with the unanimous resolution of your faithful Commons, seems to think requisite in the present exigencies of the country. We feel ourselves bound to remain firm in the wish expressed to your Majesty in our late humble address, and do therefore find ourselves obliged again to beseech your Majesty, that you would be graciously pleased to lay the foundation of a strong and stable government by the previous removal of your present ministers.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Answer, March 4, 1784.

Gentlemen,

I HAVE already expressed to you how sensible I am of the advantages to be derived from such an administration as was pointed out in your unanimous resolution; and I assured you that I was desirous of taking every step most conducive to such an object—I remain in the same sentiments—but I continue equally convinced, that it is an object not likely to be attained by the dismission of my present ministers.

I must repeat that no charge or complaint, nor any specific objection, is yet made against any of them. If there were any such ground for their removal at present, it ought to be equally a reason for not admitting them as a part of that extended and united administration which you state to be requisite.

I did not consider the failure of my recent endeavours as a final bar to the accomplishment of the purpose which I had in view, if it could have been attained on those principles of fairness and equality, without which it can neither be honourable to those who are concerned, nor lay the foundation of such a strong and stable government as may be of lasting advantage to the country. But I know of no further steps which I can take that are likely to remove the difficulties which obstruct that desirable end.

I have never called in question the right of my faithful Commons to offer me their advice on every proper occasion, touching the exercise of any branch of my prerogative: I shall be ready at all times to receive it, and give it the most attentive consideration; they will ever find me disposed to show my regard to the true principles of the constitution, and to take such measures as may best conduce to the satisfaction and prosperity of my people.

Representation of the House of Commons to his Majesty, March 8, 1784.

RESOLVED, That an humble representation be presented to his Majesty, most humbly to testify the surprise and affliction of this House, on receiving the answer which his Majesty's ministers have advised to the dutiful and seasonable address of this House, concerning one of the most important acts of his Majesty's government.

To

To express our concern, that when his Majesty's paternal goodness has graciously inclined his Majesty to be sensible of the advantages to be derived from such an administration as was pointed out in our resolution, his Majesty should still be induced to prefer the opinions of individuals to the repeated advice of the representatives of his people, in Parliament assembled, with respect to the means of obtaining so desirable an end.

To represent to his Majesty, that a preference of this nature is as injurious to the true interests of the crown, as it is wholly repugnant to the spirit of our free constitution: that systems founded on such a preference are not, in truth, entirely new in this country: that they have been the characteristic features of those unfortunate reigns, the maxims of which are now justly and universally exploded; while his Majesty and his royal progenitors have been fixed in the hearts of their people, and have commanded the respect and admiration of all the nations of the earth, by a constant and uniform attention to the advice of their Commons, however adverse such advice may have been to the opinions of the executive servants of the crown.

To assure his Majesty that we neither have disputed, nor mean in any instance to dispute, much less to deny his Majesty's undoubted prerogative of appointing to the executive offices of state such person as to his Majesty's wisdom shall seem meet; but at the same time that we must, with all humility, again submit to his Majesty's royal wisdom, that no administration, however legally appointed, can serve his Majesty and the public with effect, which does not enjoy the confidence of this House: that in his Majesty's present administration we cannot confide; the circumstances under which it was constituted, and the ground upon which it continues, have created just suspicions in the breasts of his faithful Commons, that principles are adopted, and views entertained, unfriendly to the privileges of this House, and to the freedom of our excellent constitution: that we have made no charge against any of them, because it is their removal, and not their punishment, which we have desired; and that we humbly conceive we are warranted, by the ancient usage of this House, to desire such removal without making any charge whatever: that confidence may be very prudently with-held, where no criminal process can be properly instituted: that although we have made no criminal charge against any individual of his Majesty's ministers, yet, with all humility, we do conceive that we have stated to his Majesty very distinct objections, and very forcible reasons against their continuance: that with regard to the propriety

priety of admitting either the present ministers, or any other persons, as a part of that extended and united administration which his Majesty, in concurrence with the sentiments of this House, considers as requisite, it is a point upon which we are too well acquainted with the bounds of our duty to presume to offer any advice to his Majesty, well knowing it to be the undoubted prerogative of his Majesty to appoint his ministers without any preevious advice from either House of Parliament, and our duty humbly to offer to his Majesty our advice, when such appointments shall appear to us to be prejudicial to the public service.

To acknowledge with gratitude his Majesty's goodness, in not considering the failure of his recent endeavours as a final bar to the accomplishment of the gracious purpose which his Majesty has in view; and to express the great concern and mortification with which we find ourselves obliged to declare, that the consolation which we should naturally have derived from his Majesty's most gracious disposition is considerably abated, by understanding that his Majesty's advisers have not thought fit to suggest to his Majesty any further steps to remove the difficulties which obstruct so desirable an end.

To recall to his Majesty's recollection that his faithful Commons have already submitted to his Majesty most humbly but most distinctly their opinion upon this subject; that they can have no interests but those of his Majesty and of their constituents; whereas it is needless to suggest to his Majesty's wisdom and discernment, that individual advisers may be actuated by very different motives.

To express our most unfeigned gratitude for his Majesty's royal assurances, that he does not call in question the right of this House to offer their advice to his Majesty on every proper occasion, touching the exercise of any branch of his royal prerogative, and of his Majesty's readiness at all times to receive such advice, and to give it the most attentive consideration.

To declare that we recognise in these gracious expressions those excellent and constitutional sentiments which we have ever been accustomed to hear from the throne, since the glorious æra of the Revolution, and which have peculiarly characterised his Majesty and the princes of his illustrious house; but to lament that these most gracious expressions, while they inspire us with additional affection and gratitude towards his Majesty's royal person, do not a little contribute to increase our suspicions of those men who have advised his Majesty, in direct contradiction to these assurances, to neglect the advice of his Commons, and to retain in his service an administration, whose

whose continuance in office we have so repeatedly and so distinctly condemned.

To represent to his Majesty, that it has anciently been the practice of this House to withhold supplies until grievances were redressed; and that, if we were to follow this course in the present conjuncture, we should be warranted in our proceeding, as well by the most approved precedents, as by the spirit of the constitution itself; but if, in consideration of the very peculiar exigencies of the times, we should be induced to wave for the present the exercise, in this instance, of our undoubted legal and constitutional mode of obtaining redress, that we humbly implore his Majesty not to impute our forbearance to any want of sincerity in our complaint, or distrust in the justice of our cause.

That we know, and are sure, that the prosperity of his Majesty's dominions in former times has been, under divine Providence, owing to the harmony which has for near a century prevailed uninterruptedly between the crown and this House: that we are convinced that there is no way to extricate this country from its present difficulties, but by pursuing the same system to which we have been indebted, at various periods of our history, for our successes abroad, and which is at all times so necessary for our tranquillity at home: that we feel the continuance of the present administration to be an innovation upon that happy system; that we cannot but expect from their existence under the displeasure of this House every misfortune naturally incident to a weak and distracted government; that if we had concealed from his Majesty our honest sentiments upon this important crisis, we should have been in some degree responsible for the mischiefs which are but too certain to ensue.

That we have done our duty to his Majesty and our constituents in pointing out the evil, and in humbly imploring redress; that the blame and responsibility must now lie wholly upon those who have presumed to advise his Majesty to act in contradiction to the uniform maxims which have hitherto governed the conduct of his Majesty, as well as every other prince of his illustrious house, upon those who have disregarded the opinions, and neglected the admonitions of the representatives of his people, and who have thereby attempted to set up a new system of executive administration, which, wanting the confidence of this House, and acting in defiance to our resolutions, must prove at once inadequate, by its inefficiency to the necessary objects of government, and dangerous by its examples to the liberties of the people.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, March 24, 1784.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

ON a full consideration of the present situation of affairs, and of the extraordinary circumstances which have produced it, I am induced to put an end to this session of Parliament: I feel it a duty which I owe to the constitution and to the country in such a situation, to recur as speedily as possible to the sense of my people, by calling a new Parliament.

I trust that this measure will tend to obviate the mischiefs arising from the unhappy divisions and distractions which have lately subsisted; and that the various important objects which will require consideration may be afterwards proceeded upon with less interruption, and with happier effect.

I can have no other object but to preserve the true principles of our free and happy constitution, and to employ the powers entrusted to me by law for the only end for which they were given, the good of my people.

The Earl of Mansfield, as Speaker of the House of Lords, by his Majesty's command, then said:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the sixth day April next, to be then here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the sixth day of April next.

Speech of the Lord Chancellor to the House of Commons, May 18, 1784.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HIS Majesty has been pleased to command me to acquaint you, that he will defer declaring the causes of calling this Parliament till there shall be a Speaker of the House of Commons. And therefore it is his Majesty's pleasure that you, gentlemen of the House of Commons, do immediately repair to the place where the Commons usually sit, and there choose a fit person to be your Speaker; and that you present such a person who shall be so chosen to his Majesty here, for his royal approbation, to-morrow at two o'clock.

Speech of the Speaker of the House of Commons, May 19, 1784.

IN consequence of a command from his Majesty which the Commons have received, to elect a Speaker, I am to inform his Majesty, that they have proceeded to the exercise of that ancient and undoubted right. I have the honour to be the object of their choice. On this occasion, however, I cannot refrain from expressing my apprehensions, that my abilities are by no means adequate to the discharge of that weighty and important trust which they have reposed in me. Under these circumstances I must entreat his Majesty, that he would give his command to his Commons to proceed to another election.

The Lord Chancellor then addressed the Speaker as follows:

I HAVE received the commands of his Majesty to express the confidence which he has in your experience, abilities, and integrity, and to notify his Majesty's approbation and command, that you should take upon you the high and important trust which his faithful Commons have placed in you.

The Speaker then replied,

THE best way I can take to return his Majesty my acknowledgments for the high honour he has done me, by his approbation and confidence, is by the most serious and strenuous exertions of such abilities as I possess, and the truest integrity of heart, in the discharge of the high employment with which I am invested. I must entreat for myself every indulgence for my failings, and that the most favourable construction may be put upon all my proceedings. I must likewise claim for the House of Commons, over which I am to preside, the assurance of the continuance of an exemption from arrest of its members, of a free access to his Majesty's person, and of all other their ancient and undoubted rights.

The Lord Chancellor then said,

HOWEVER small the need may be of his Majesty's favourable indulgence on account of your abilities, I am ordered to give you his Majesty's assurance of every favourable interpretation of your conduct. I am also authorised to assure you of his

Majesty's resolution to preserve all the ancient rights of the House of Commons inviolate, and among others those of freedom from arrest, of free access to his person, and of a favourable construction on the proceedings of the House.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, May 19, 1784.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE the greatest satisfaction in meeting you in Parliament at this time, after recurring, in so important a moment, to the sense of my people. I have a just and confident reliance, that you are animated with the same sentiments of loyalty, and the same attachment to our excellent constitution, which I have had the happiness to see so fully manifested in every part of the kingdom. The happy effects of such a disposition will, I doubt not, appear in the temper and wisdom of your deliberations, and in the dispatch of the important objects of public business which demand your attention. It will afford me peculiar pleasure to find, that the exercise of the power entrusted to me by the constitution has been productive of consequences so beneficial to my subjects, whose interest and welfare are always nearest my heart.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the estimates for the current year to be laid before you; and I trust to your zeal and affection to make such provisions for their further supply, and for the application of the sums granted in the last Parliament, as may appear to be necessary.

I sincerely lament every addition to the burdens of my people; but they will, I am persuaded, feel the necessity, after a long and expensive war, of effectually providing for the maintenance of the national faith and our public credit, so essential to the power and prosperity of the state.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The alarming progress of frauds in the revenue, accompanied in so many instances with violence, will not fail on every account to excite your attention. I must, at the same time, recommend to your most serious consideration, to frame such commercial regulations as may appear immediately necessary in the present moment. The affairs of the East India Company form an object of deliberation deeply connected with the general interests of the country. While you feel a just anxiety to provide for the good government of our possessions

ſions in that part of the world, you will, I truſt, never loſe ſight of the effect which any meaſure to be adopted for that purpoſe may have on our own conſtitution, and our deareſt intereſts at home. You will find me always deſirous to concur with you in ſuch meaſures as may be of laſting benefit to my people: I have no wiſh but to conſult their proſperity, by a conſtant attention to every object of national concern, by an uniform adherence to the true principles of our free conſtitution, and by ſupporting and maintaining, in their juſt balance, the rights and privileges of every branch of the legiſlature.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, May 19, 1784.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Deeply ſenſible of the bleſſings we enjoy under your Majeſty's government, we deſire to expreſs our ſatisfaction and gratitude, that in the exerciſe of the powers veſted in you by the conſtitution, your Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to recur to the ſenſe of your people at a conjuncture when the ſituation of public affairs called loudly for that exertion

Animated with the warmeſt ſentiments of loyalty to your Majeſty's perſon and government, of attachment to our excellent conſtitution, and of regard for the public welfare, your Majeſty may ſafely rely, that we will enter upon the important objects of public buſineſs, which call for our attention, with temper and aſſiduity, and that we will proſecute them with all the diſpatch of which their nature will admit.

In purſuit of thoſe objects which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to recommend to our conſideration, we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty that we will apply ourſelves with induſtry to the ſtopping the alarming progreſs of frauds in the revenue; and that we ſhall be ready to co-operate with the other branches of the legiſlature in framing ſuch further commercial regulations as the preſent circumſtances may require.

Convinced, as we are, how materially the ſituation of the affairs of the Eaſt India Company is connected with the general intereſts of the country, and that it forms a moſt important ſubject of deliberation, your Majeſty may depend, that in applying our utmoſt attention to provide for the good government of our poſſeſſions in India, we ſhall well and anxiouſly

weigh the effect which the measures we may adopt may have upon the invaluable constitution of Great Britain.

We beg leave humbly to assure your Majesty, that we have the fullest conviction of your Majesty's paternal care and affection for your people, and that the prosperity of your subjects is the first object of your royal attention; which could not be more fully manifested than in the resolution your Majesty has taken to support and maintain in their just balance the rights and privileges of every branch of the legislature.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful address. I receive with great satisfaction every fresh mark of your attachment to me, and your zeal for the public interests, and for the preservation of our most excellent constitution.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, May 25, 1784.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We beg your Majesty will be assured that we are animated with the warmest sentiments of loyalty, and an inviolable attachment to our excellent constitution, which are, we trust, inseparably united in the hearts of your faithful subjects: we acknowledge with the warmest gratitude and satisfaction, your Majesty's wisdom and goodness in recurring, at so important a moment, to the sense of your people; and that we trust, so seasonable an exercise of the power entrusted to your Majesty by the constitution will not fail to be attended by the most happy and beneficial effects.

Your Majesty may be assured that your faithful Commons will be ready to take proper measures for the application of the sums voted in the last Parliament, and to grant such farther supplies as may appear to be necessary; having the fullest confidence that all your Majesty's subjects will, from loyalty to your Majesty, and zeal for the interests of the country, be ready to support those heavy burdens, which, in consequence of a long and expensive war, are now unavoidable, and will be sensible

ſenſible of the neceſſity of effectually providing for the maintenance of the national faith and the public credit, ſo eſſential to the power and proſperity of the ſtate.

We alſo beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that we ſhall apply our utmoſt attention to the means of preventing the increaſing frauds in the revenue; that we ſhall alſo take into our moſt ſerious conſideration ſuch commercial regulations as the preſent ſituation my immediately require.

That, in our deliberations on the affairs of the Eaſt India Company, ſo deeply connected with the general intereſts of the country, we ſhall be truly anxious to provide for the good government of our poſſeſſions in that part of the world.

That we ſhall be careful never to loſe ſight of the effects which any meaſure to be adopted for that purpoſe may have on our excellent conſtitution, and our deareſt intereſts at home; and that we are deeply penetrated with the gracious and parental expreſſions of his Majeſty's affection and goodneſs to his people, and have the moſt dutiful reliance on his Majeſty's royal attention to every object of national concern, and to the true principles of our free conſtitution, which can only be ſecured by maintaining, in their juſt balance, the rights and privileges of every branch of the legiſlature.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my moſt cordial thanks for this very loyal and dutiful addreſs.

The affectionate expreſſions of attachment from my faithful Commons, and their zealous regard to the principles of our invaluable conſtitution, muſt ever afford me the moſt ſincere ſatisfaction.

Addreſs of the Archbiſhops, Biſhops, and Clergy of the Province of Canterbury, in Convocation aſſembled, to his Majeſty, June 9, 1784.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Archbiſhop, Biſhops, and Clergy of the province of Canterbury, in convocation aſſembled, beg leave to approach your royal perſon with thoſe ſentiments of veneration and re-

ſpectful attachment, which are but a juſt return for your Majeſty's unwearied exertions for the public welfare.

It is with the utmoſt ſatisfaction we embrace every opportunity of profeſſing to your Majeſty, and to the world, our deep ſenſe of all the bleſſings we enjoy under your mild and auſpicious government; but we ſhould be unmindful of our character, as miniſters of the goſpel, if we omitted to expreſs our warmeſt acknowledgments for that firm ſupport of our holy religion, as by law eſtabliſhed, which your Majeſty hath ſo much at heart, and of which we experience the moſt convincing proofs in your protection, and from your example.

We truſt that we prize theſe bleſſings as we ought: but we are ſenſible that no expreſſions of duty on our part will be ſo acceptable to your Majeſty, as the aſſurance of our earneſt endeavours, in our reſpective ſituations, to advance the glory of God, and the good of mankind, by the promotion of true Chriſtian piety and virtue, remembering always, that obedience to civil government muſt have its root in the fear of God, that it muſt be propagated, nouriſhed, and preſerved in religion.

By ſuch means we ſhall beſt approve ourſelves faithful miniſtors and good citizens, dutiful ſubjects of your Majeſty, and true lovers of our country, intereſts which, whoever would divide, can be a friend to neither.

May the Almighty, from whom princes derive not only their authority but their ſtability alſo, for the exerciſe of it, proportion his aſſiſtance to the difficulties with which ſuch a ſituation is encompaſſed. May he continue, out of his goodneſs to this nation, to protect and preſerve you; to crown with ſucceſs your endeavours for the public ſervice, and requite them with the willing obedience of a grateful people.

May your Majeſty's reign over us be long and happy, each ſucceeding year be marked with the bleſſings of peace and public proſperity, and with every additional circumſtance of domeſtic felicity.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and affectionate addreſs.

I receive with pleaſure your expreſſions of zeal for our holy religion, and your aſſurances of your earneſt endeavours to advance the glory of God, and the good of mankind, by the promotion of true Chriſtian piety and virtue.

I ſhall

I ſhall ever continue to ſupport, to the utmoſt of my power, the church of England, as by law eſtabliſhed, as well as the religious and civil rights of my people.

Meſſage from his Majeſty, July 21, 1784.

GEORGE REX.

IT gives his Majeſty great concern, that, notwithſtanding the retrenchments which have been already made in the eſtabliſhment of the civil liſt, he finds himſelf under the neceſſity of acquainting the Houſe of Commons, that debts have been incurred by the unavoidable expences of his civil government, to a conſiderable amount, an account of which he has ordered to be laid before the Houſe.

His Majeſty relies on the zeal and affection of his faithful Commons, that they will take the ſame into their early conſideration, and provide ſuch means as they ſhall think proper, to enable his Majeſty to diſcharge the ſame.

G. R.

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majeſty, Aug. 20, 1784.

YOUR faithful Commons, in compliance with your Majeſty's requeſt, by very heavy taxes on your Majeſty's ſubjects, have made proviſion for the ſupport of the public credit, and for making up the deficiencies in the civil liſt, not doubting but your Majeſty's wiſdom and juſtice will properly diſpoſe of what the confidence of your people has ſo liberally granted.

Regulations have been made for the better government of your Majeſty's dominions in India, and a tribunal of juſtice has been inſtituted, which, it is to be hoped, will enforce in that diſtant quarter of the world thoſe maxims of juſtice which ſo happily prevail in your Majeſty's other dominions.

Laws have been made for the prevention of ſmuggling, and thereby reſtoring, ſupporting, and increaſing the reſources of public revenue.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Aug. 20, 1784.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT close this session of Parliament without returning you my warmest thanks for the eminent proofs you have given of your zealous and diligent attention to the public service.

The happiest effects may be expected from the provisions which you have made for the better government of India, and from the institution of a tribunal so peculiarly adapted to the trial of offences committed in that distant country.

I observe with great satisfaction the laws which you have passed for the preservation and improvement of the revenue. No exertions shall be wanting on my part to give them vigour and effect.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The zeal and liberality with which you have provided for the exigencies of the public service, and the assistance which you have given me to prevent a growing arrear in the expences of my civil list, demand my particular thanks.

I feel in common with you for the unavoidable burdens of my people.

The importance of effectually supporting our national credit, after a long and exhausting war, can alone reconcile me to so painful a necessity. I trust the same consideration will enable my faithful subjects to meet it, as they have uniformly done, with fortitude and patience.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The definitive treaty which has been signed with the States General of the United Provinces, and the peace concluded in India, as well as the assurances which I receive from foreign powers, promise the continuance of general tranquillity.

I trust, therefore, that after so laborious a session, it will not be found necessary to call you again together at a very early period.

Many important objects with respect to our trade and commerce, which could not now be provided for, will naturally require your attention after the recess; and such regulations will, I trust, be framed, after a full investigation, as shall be found best calculated to promote the wealth and prosperity of all the parts of the empire.

Then

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the twenty-sixth day of October next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the twenty-sixth day of October next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Jan. 25, 1785.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AFTER the laborious attendance of the late session of Parliament, it has given me peculiar pleasure that the situation of public affairs has admitted of so long a recess.

Among the objects which now require consideration, I must particularly recommend to your earnest attention the adjustment of such points in the commercial intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland as are not yet finally arranged; the system which will unite both kingdoms the most closely on principles of reciprocal advantage, will, I am persuaded, best ensure the general prosperity of my dominions.

I have the satisfaction to acquaint you, that notwithstanding any appearance of differences on the continent, I continue uniformly to receive from all foreign powers the strongest assurances of their good dispositions towards this country.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you; I confide in your liberality and zeal to grant the necessary supplies, with just regard, as well to the œconomy requisite in every department, as to the maintenance of the national credit, and the real exigencies of the public service.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The success which has attended the measures taken in the last session towards the suppression of smuggling, and for the improvement of the revenue, will encourage you to apply yourselves with continual assiduity to those important objects. You will, I trust, also take into early consideration the matters suggested in the reports of the commissioners of public accounts, and such farther regulations as may appear to be necessary in the different offices of the kingdom.

I have

I have the fullest reliance on the continuance of your faithful and diligent exertions in every part of your public duty. You may at all times depend on my hearty concurrence in every measure which can tend to alleviate our national burdens, to secure the true principles of the constitution, and to promote the general welfare of my people.

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, Jan. 25, 1785.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us to express to your Majesty our most grateful sense of your Majesty's regard for our private convenience, in not commanding from us an earlier attendance in Parliament.

Your Majesty may rely on our faithful and diligent exertions in every part of our duty; and, truly sensible of the importance of the object, we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that it is our determination to give our immediate attention to the adjustment of such points in the commercial intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland as are not yet finally arranged; trusting that such a system may be formed as may best ensure the prosperity of both kingdoms, by closely uniting them upon principles of reciprocal advantage.

We desire to return to your Majesty our warmest thanks for your gracious communication of the assurances which your Majesty continues to receive of the good disposition of foreign powers towards this country, notwithstanding the differences which appear to prevail upon the continent.

The information your Majesty is pleased to give us of the success which has attended the measures taken the last session for the suppression of smuggling, and for the improvement of the revenue, affords us the greatest satisfaction: and your Majesty may be assured, that we will apply ourselves with unremitted attention to points of such great concern to the prosperity of this country, and that we will take into our early consideration the matters suggested in the several reports of the commissioners of public accounts, as well as such further regulations as may appear to be necessary in the public offices of the kingdom.

From the experience we have had of your Majesty's paternal regard for the interests of all your subjects, we beg leave humbly

humbly to exprefs to your Majefty our fulleft confidence in the gracious affurance of your Majefty's hearty concurrence in every meafure which may tend to alleviate the national burdens, to fecure the true principles of the conftitution, and to promote the general happinefs and welfare of your people.

His Majefty's moft gracious Anfwer.

My Lords,

I RETURN you thanks for this dutiful and affectionate addrefs.

Nothing can give me more fatisfaction, than your affurance that you will immediately enter into the confideration of the matters which I have laid before you.

You may depend upon the utmoft care and attention on my part, to fettle every thing which concerns the intereft of my kingdoms upon a folid and durable foundation.

Addrefs of the Houfe of Commons to his Majefty, Jan. 26, 1785.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament affembled, beg leave to return your Majefty our humble thanks for your moft gracious fpeech from the throne.

We beg your Majefty will be affured, that we fhall refume the confideration of public bufinefs with the fame principles of duty to your Majefty, and regard to the interefts of our conftituents, which we have endeavoured to manifeft in all our proceedings.

That we will not fail to give our moft earneft attention to the adjuftment of fuch points as are not yet finally arranged in the commercial intercourfe between Great Britain and Ireland; fully agreeing with your Majefty, in thinking that the fyftem which will unite both kingdoms the moft clofely, on principles of reciprocal advantage, will beft enfure the general profperity of your Majefty's dominions.

We beg leave to affure your Majefty, that it affords us the trueft pleafure to be informed, that notwithftanding any appearance of differences on the continent, your Majefty continues to receive fuch fatisfactory affurances of the good difpofition of foreign powers towards this country.

We befeech your Majefty to believe that we fhall at all times be ready to grant fuch fupplies as are neceffary for the maintenance of the national credit, and the real exigencies of the public fervice.

That we are deeply ſenſible of your Majeſty's paternal goodneſs and care for your people, in recommending to us, at the ſame time, a juſt regard to the œconomy requiſite in every department; a duty which your Majeſty's faithful Commons feel always incumbent upon them, and, at this time, peculiarly indiſpenſable.

We aſſure your Majeſty, that we ſee the importance of every exertion which can tend to the ſuppreſſion of ſmuggling and the improvement of the revenue; and that we ſhall continue to apply ourſelves, with unwearied aſſiduity, to thoſe important objects

That we ſhall alſo proceed, with as much expedition as poſſible, to the conſideration of the reports of the commiſſioners of accounts, as well as of ſuch further regulations in the different offices of this kingdom as may appear likely to conduce to the public advantage.

We entreat your Majeſty to be aſſured, that our utmoſt endeavours ſhall not be wanting to juſtify your Majeſty's gracious reliance on our diligent attention to every part of our public duty; and that we receive with the warmeſt gratitude and ſatisfaction the aſſurances of your Majeſty's concurrence in every meaſure which can tend to alleviate the national burdens, to ſecure the true principles of the conſtitution, and to promote the general welfare of the people.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my thanks for your very loyal and affectionate addreſs. I receive, with the utmoſt pleaſure, the aſſurances of your diſpoſition to reſume the conſideration of public buſineſs with the ſame principles which you have manifeſted in all your former proceedings, and I truſt, that the reſult of your deliberations will be productive of the moſt ſalutary effects.

Reſolutions of the Houſes of Lords and Commons of Ireland, relative to the commercial Intercourſe between that Country and Great Britain, preſented to both Houſes of Parliament by his Majeſty's Command, Feb. 22, 1785.

1ſt. RESOLVED, That it is highly important to the general intereſt of the Britiſh empire, that the trade between Great Britain and Ireland be encouraged and extended as much as poſſible; and for that purpoſe, that the intercourſe and com-

commerce be finally settled and regulated on permanent and equitable principles for the mutual benefit of both countries.

2d. Resolved, That towards carrying into full effect so desirable a settlement, it is fit and proper that all articles, not the growth or manufacture of Great Britain, or Ireland, should be imported into each kingdom from the other, reciprocally, under the same regulation, and at the same duties, if subject to duties, to which they are liable when imported directly from the place of their growth, product, or manufacture; and that all duties originally paid on importation into either country respectively, shall be fully drawn back on exportation to the other.

3d. Resolved, That for the same purpose it is proper, that no prohibition should exist in either country against the importation, use, or sale of any article, the growth, product, or manufacture of the other; and that the duty on the importation of every such article, if subject to duty, in either country, should be precisely the same in the one country as in the other, except where an addition may be necessary in either country, in consequence of an internal duty on any such article of its own consumption.

4th. Resolved, That in all cases where the duties on articles of the growth, product, or manufacture of either country, are different on the importation into the other, it would be expedient that they should be reduced in the kingdom where they are the highest, to the amount payable in the other, and that all such articles should be exportable from the kingdom into which they shall be imported, as free from duty as the similar commodities or home manufactures of the same kingdom.

5th. Resolved, That for the same purpose it is also proper, that in all cases where either kingdom shall charge articles of its own consumption with an internal duty on the manufacture, or a duty on the material, the same manufacture, when imported from the other, may be charged with a further duty on importation, to the same amount as the internal duty on the manufacture, or to an amount adequate to countervail the duty on the material, and shall be entitled to such drawbacks or bounties on exportation, as may leave the same subject to no heavier burden than the home-made manufacture; such further duty to continue so long only as the internal consumption shall be charged with the duty or duties, to balance which it shall be imposed, or until the manufacture coming from the other kingdom shall be subjected there to an equal burden not drawn back or compensated on exportation.

6th. Resolved, That in order to give permanency to the settlement now intended to be established, it is necessary that no pro-

prohibition, or new or additional duties, ſhould be hereafter impoſed in either kingdom, on the importation of any article of the growth, product, or manufacture of the other, except ſuch additional duties as may be requiſite to balance duties on internal conſumption, purſuant to the foregoing reſolution.

7th. Reſolved, That for the ſame purpoſe it is neceſſary farther, that no prohibition, or new or additional duties, ſhould be hereafter impoſed in either kingdom, on the exportation of any article of native growth, product, or manufacture, from thence to the other, except ſuch as either kingdom may deem expedient, from time to time, upon corn, meal, malt, flour, and biſcuits; and alſo except where there now exiſts any prohibition which is not reciprocal, or any duty which is not equal in both kingdoms, in every which caſe the prohibition may be made reciprocal, or the duties raiſed ſo as to make them equal.

8th. Reſolved, That for the ſame purpoſe it is neceſſary that no bounties whatſoever ſhould be paid, or payable, in either kingdom, on the exportation of any article to the other, except ſuch as relate to corn, meal, malt, flour, and biſcuits, and ſuch as are in the nature of drawbacks or compenſations for duties paid, and that no duty ſhould be granted in this kingdom on the exportation of any article imported from the Britiſh plantations, or any manufacture made of ſuch article, unleſs in caſes where a ſimilar bounty is payable in Britain, on exportation from thence, or where ſuch bounty is merely in the nature of a drawback, or compenſation of, or for duties paid over and above any duties paid thereon in Britain.

9th. Reſolved, That it is expedient, for the general benefit of the Britiſh empire, that the importation of articles from foreign ſtates ſhould be regulated from time to time, in each kingdom, on ſuch terms as may afford an effectual preference to the importation of ſimilar articles of the growth, product, or manufacture of the other.

10th. Reſolved, That it is eſſential to the commercial intereſts of this country to prevent, as much as poſſible, an accumulation of national debt, and therefore it is highly expedient, that the annual revenues of this kingdom ſhould be made equal to its annual expences.

11th. Reſolved, That for the better protection of trade, whatever ſum the groſs hereditary revenue of this kingdom (after deducting all drawbacks, repayments, or bounties, granted in the nature of drawbacks) ſhall produce, over and above the ſum of 656,000l. in each year of peace, wherein the annual revenues ſhall be equal to the annual expences, and

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in each year of war, without regard to such equality, should be appropriated towards the support of the naval force of the empire, in such manner as the Parliament of this kingdom shall direct.

W. WATTS GAYER, } Cler. Parliament.
EDWARD GAYER, }
THOMAS ELLIS, Cler. Parl. Dom. Com.

Resolutions of both Houses of Parliament relative to the Adjustment of the Commercial Intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland.

RESOLVED, I. That it is highly important to the general interest of the British empire, that the intercourse and commerce between Great Britain and Ireland should be finally regulated on permanent and equitable principles, for the mutual benefit of both countries.

II. That it is consistent with the essential interests of the manufactures, revenues, commerce, and navigation of Great Britain, that a full participation of commercial advantages should be permanently secured to Ireland, whenever a provision, equally permanent and secure, shall be made by the Parliament of that kingdom towards defraying, in proportion to its growing prosperity, the necessary expences, in time of peace, of protecting the trade and general interests of the empire.

III. That, towards carrying into full effect so desirable a settlement, it is fit and proper that all articles, not the growth or manufacture of Great Britain or Ireland, except those of the growth, produce, or manufacture of any of the countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Streights of Magellan, should be imported into each kingdom from the other reciprocally, under the same regulations, and at the same duties, (if subject to duties) to which they would be liable when imported directly from the country or place from whence the same may have been imported into Great Britain or Ireland respectively, as the case may be; and that all duties originally paid on importation into either country respectively, except on arrack or foreign brandy, and on rum and all sorts of strong waters not imported from the British Colonies in the West Indies, shall be fully drawn back, within a time to be fixed, on exportation to the other; but, nevertheless, that the duties shall continue to be protected and guarded, as at present, by withholding the drawback until a certificate from the proper officers of the revenue in the kingdom to which the export may

be made, ſhall be returned and compared with the entry outwards.

IV. That it is highly important to the general intereſts of the Britiſh empire, that the laws for regulating trade and navigation ſhould be the ſame in Great Britain and Ireland; and therefore that it is eſſential, towards carrying into effect the preſent ſettlement, that all laws which have been made, or ſhall be made, in Great Britain, for ſecuring excluſive privileges to the ſhips and mariners of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Britiſh Colonies and plantations, and for regulating and reſtraining the trade of the Britiſh Colonies and plantations (ſuch laws impoſing the ſame reſtraints, and conferring the ſame benefits on the ſubjects of both kingdoms) ſhould be in force in Ireland, by laws to be paſſed in the Parliament of that kingdom, for the ſame time, and in the ſame manner, as in Great Britain.

V. That it is farther eſſential to this ſettlement, that all goods and commodities of the growth, produce, or manufacture of Britiſh or foreign colonies in America, or the Weſt Indies, and the Britiſh or foreign ſettlements on the coaſt of Africa, imported into Ireland, ſhould, on importation, be ſubject to the ſame duties and regulations as the like goods are, or from time to time ſhall be ſubject to, upon importation into Great Britain; or if prohibited to be imported into Great Britain, ſhall be prohibited in like manner from being imported into Ireland.

VI. That in order to prevent illicit practices injurious to the revenue and commerce of both kingdoms, it is expedient that all goods, whether of the growth, produce, or manufacture of Great Britain or Ireland, or of any foreign country, which ſhall hereafter be imported into Great Britain from Ireland, or into Ireland from Great Britain, ſhould be put (by laws to be paſſed in the Parliaments of the two kingdoms) under the ſame regulations with reſpect to bonds, cockets, and other inſtruments, to which the like goods are now ſubject in paſſing from one port of Great Britain to another.

VII. That for the like purpoſe it is alſo expedient, that when any goods, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the Britiſh Weſt India iſlands, or any other of the Britiſh colonies or plantations, ſhall be ſhipped from Ireland for Great Britain, they ſhall be accompanied with ſuch original certificates of the revenue officers of the ſaid colonies as ſhall be required by law on importation into Great Britain; and that, when the whole quantity included in one certificate ſhall not be ſhipped at any one time, the original certificate, properly indorſed as to quantity, ſhould be ſent with the firſt parcel; and to identify

tify the remainder, if ſhipped within a time to be limited, new certificates ſhould be granted by the principal officers of the ports in Ireland, extracted from a regiſter of the original documents, ſpecifying the quantities before ſhipped from thence, by what veſſels, and to what ports.

VIII That it is eſſential, for carrying into effect the preſent ſettlement, that all goods exported from Ireland to the Britiſh colonies in the Weſt Indies, or in America, or to the Britiſh ſettlements on the coaſt of Africa, or to the countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Streights of Magellan, ſhould from time to time be made liable to ſuch duties and drawbacks, and put under ſuch regulations, as may be neceſſary, in order that the ſame may not be exported with leſs incumbrance of duties, or impoſitions, than the like goods ſhall be burdened with when exported from Great Britain.

IX. That it is eſſential to the general commercial intereſts of the empire, that, ſo long as the Parliament of this kingdom ſhall think it adviſable that the commerce to the countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Streights of Magellan, ſhall be carried on ſolely by an excluſive company, having liberty to import into the port of London only, no goods of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the ſaid countries ſhould be allowed to be imported into Ireland but through Great Britain: except dye ſtuffs, drugs, cotton or other wool, and groceries which may be imported into Ireland from foreign European countries, ſo long as the ſame are importable from foreign European countries into Great Britain; and that it ſhall be lawful to export ſuch goods of the growth, produce, or manufacture of any of the countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Streights of Magellan, from Great Britain to Ireland, with the ſame duties retained thereon as are now retained on their being exported to that kingdom, but that an account ſhall be kept of the duties retained, and not drawn back on the ſaid goods exported to Ireland, and that the amount thereof ſhall be remitted, by the Receiver-general of his Majeſty's cuſtoms in Great Britain, to the proper officer of the revenue in Ireland, to be placed to the account of his Majeſty's revenue there, ſubject to the diſpoſal of the Parliament of that kingdom; and that the ſhips going from Great Britain to any of the ſaid countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Streights of Magellan, ſhould not be reſtrained from touching at any of the ports in Ireland, and taking on board there any of the goods of the growth, produce, or manufacture of that kingdom; and that no ſhips be allowed to clear out from Ireland for any of the ſaid countries, but ſuch ſhips as ſhall be freighted by the ſaid company, and which ſhall have ſailed

from the port of London: and that, whenever the commerce to the ſaid countries ſhall ceaſe to be ſo carried on ſolely by ſuch an excluſive company, the goods, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the ſaid countries beyond the Cape of Good Hope to the Streights of Magellan, ſhould be importable into Ireland from the Britiſh or foreign ſettlements in the Eaſt Indies, ſubject to the ſame duties and regulations as the like goods from time to time ſhall be ſubject to on importation into Great Britain; and if prohibited to be imported into Great Britain, ſhould in like manner be prohibited from being imported into Ireland.

X That no prohibition ſhould exiſt, in either country, againſt the importation, uſe, or ſale of any article, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the other, except ſuch as either kingdom may judge expedient, from time to time, upon corn, meal, malt, flour, and biſcuits; and except ſuch qualified prohibitions, at preſent contained in any act of the Britiſh or Iriſh Parliaments, as do abſolutely prevent the importation of goods or manufactures, or materials of manufactures, but only regulate the weight, the ſize, the packages, or other particular circumſtances, or preſcribe the built or country, and dimenſions of the ſhips importing the ſame; and alſo, except on ammunition, arms, gunpowder, and other utenſils of war, importable only by virtue of his Majeſty's licence; and that the duty on the importation of every ſuch article (if ſubject to duty in either country) ſhould be preciſely the ſame in the one country as in the other, except where an addition may be neceſſary in either country, in conſequence of an internal duty on any ſuch article of its own conſumption, or an internal bounty in the country where ſuch article is grown, produced, or manufactured; and except ſuch duties as either kingdom may judge expedient, from time to time, upon corn, meal, malt, flour, and biſcuits.

XI. That, in all caſes in which the duties on articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture, of either country are different, on the importation into the other, it is expedient that they ſhould be reduced, in the kingdom in which they are the higheſt, to an amount not exceeding the duties which were payable in the other on the 17th day of May, 1782, ſo that in every caſe in which any article was charged with a duty, on importation into Ireland, of ten and a half per cent. or upwards, on the 17th day of May, 1782, the amount of the duties ſo reduced ſhall not be leſs than the ſaid duty of ten and a half per cent. unleſs in caſes where any articles are importable duty free into either kingdom from the other, which articles ſhall hereafter be imported duty free into each from

the

the other respectively; and that all such articles should be exportable from the kingdom into which they shall be imported, as free from duties as the similar commodities, or home manufacture of the same kingdom: provided always, that when any such articles shall be liable, in either country, to any duty on being exported to any foreign country, the same articles, when re-exported from either of the said kingdoms into which they shall have been so imported as aforesaid, shall pay the like duties as if they had been originally exported from the kingdom of their growth, produce, or manufacture, to such foreign country.

XII. That it is also proper, that in all cases in which the articles of the consumption of either kingdom shall be charged with an internal duty on the manufacture, such manufacture, when imported from the other, may be charged with a farther duty on importation adequate to countervail the internal duty on the manufacture, such farther duty to continue so long only as the internal consumption shall be charged with the duty or duties to balance which it shall be imposed, provided that the countervailing duty to be paid upon manufactured salt imported into any part of Great Britain shall be computed upon the internal duty payable thereon in England; and that, where there is a duty on the raw material of any manufacture in either kingdom, such manufacture may, on its importation into the said kingdom from the other, be charged with such a countervailing duty as may be sufficient to subject the same to burdens adequate to those which such manufacture is subject to in consequence of such duties on such raw material in the kingdom into which such manufacture is so to be imported; and that the said manufacture so imported shall be entitled to such drawbacks or bounties on exportation as may leave the same subject to no heavier burden than the home-made manufacture; and that, in every case where a duty shall be payable in either kingdom on any article carried coastwise from one port to another of the said kingdom, the same article, when imported from the other kingdom, should be subject to the like duty.

XIII. That in order to give permanency to the settlement now intended to be established, it is necessary that no new or additional duties should be hereafter imposed in either kingdom, on the importation of any article of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the other, except such additional duties as may be requisite to balance duties on internal consumption, pursuant to the foregoing resolution, or in consequence of bounties remaining on such article when exported from the other kingdom.

 XIV. That

XIV. That, for the ſame purpoſe, it is neceſſary, farther, that no new prohibition, or new or additional duties, ſhould be hereafter impoſed, in either kingdom, on the exportation of any article of native growth, produce, or manufacture, from the one kingdom to the other, except ſuch as either kingdom may deem expedient, from time to time, upon corn, meal, malt, flour, and biſcuits: provided, that when any article of the growth, produce, or manufacture of either kingdom, ſhall be prohibited by the laws of the ſaid kingdom to be exported to foreign countries, the ſame article, when exported to the other kingdoms, ſhall be prohibited to be re-exported from thence to any foreign countries.

XV. That, for the ſame purpoſe, it is neceſſary, that no bounties whatſoever ſhould be paid or payable, in either kingdom, on the exportation of any article to the other, except ſuch as relate to corn, meal, malt, flour, and biſcuits, and except alſo the bounties at preſent given by Great Britain on beer and ſpirits diſtilled from corn, and ſuch as are in the nature of drawbacks or compenſations for duties paid; and that no bounties ſhould be payable in Ireland on the exportation of any article to any Britiſh colonies or plantations, or to the Britiſh ſettlements on the coaſt of Africa, or Britiſh ſettlements in the Eaſt Indies, or any manufacture made of ſuch article, unleſs in caſes where a ſimilar bounty is payable in Great Britain, on exportation from thence, or where ſuch bounty is merely in the nature of a drawback or compenſation of or for duties paid over and above any duties paid thereon in Great Britain; and that, where any internal bounty ſhall be given, in either kingdom, on any goods manufactured therein, and ſhall remain on ſuch goods when exported, a countervailing duty adequate thereto may be laid upon the importation of the ſaid goods into the other kingdom.

XVI. That it is expedient for the general benefit of the Britiſh empire, that the importation of articles from foreign countries ſhould be regulated, from time to time, in each kingdom, on ſuch terms as may effectually favour the importation of ſimilar articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture of the other; except in the caſe of materials of manufacture, which are, or hereafter may be allowed to be imported from foreign countries duty free; and that in all caſes where any articles are or may be ſubject to higher duties on importation into this kingdom, from the countries belonging to any of the ſtates of North America, than the like goods are or may be ſubject to when imported as the growth, produce, or manufacture of the Britiſh colonies and plantations, or as the produce of the fiſheries carried on by Britiſh ſubjects, ſuch articles ſhall be ſubject

to

to the same duties on importation into Ireland, from the countries belonging to any of the states in North America, as the same are or may be subject to on importation from the said countries into this kingdom.

XVII. That it is expedient that such privileges of printing and vending books, engravings, prints, maps, charts, and plans, as are or may be legally possessed within Great Britain, under the grant of the crown or otherwise; and that the copy rights of the authors and booksellers, the engraved property of engravers, print and map-sellers of Great Britain, should continue to be protected in the manner they are at present by the laws of Great Britain; and that it is just that measures should be taken by the Parliament of Ireland for giving the like protection to the copy rights of authors and booksellers, and to the engraved property of the engravers, print and map-sellers of that kingdom.

XVIII. That it is expedient that such exclusive rights and privileges, arising from new inventions, as are now legally possessed within Great Britain under letters patent from the crown, shall continue to be protected in the manner they are at present by the laws of Great Britain; and that it is just that measures should be taken by the Parliament of Ireland for giving the like protection to similar rights and privileges in that kingdom; and also that it is expedient that regulations should be adopted with respect to letters patent hereafter to be granted in the case of new inventions, so that the rights, privileges, and restrictions, therein granted and contained, shall be of equal force and duration throughout both kingdoms.

XIX. That it is expedient that measures should be taken to prevent disputes, touching the exercise of the right of the inhabitants of each kingdom to fish on the coasts of any of the British dominions.

XX. That the appropriation of whatever sum the gross hereditary revenue of the kingdom of Ireland (the due collection thereof being secured by permanent provisions) shall produce, after deducting all drawbacks, re-payments, or bounties granted in the nature of drawbacks, over and above the sum of six hundred and fifty-six thousand pounds in each year, towards the support of the naval force of the empire, to be applied in such manner as the Parliament of Ireland shall direct, by an act to be passed for that purpose, will be a satisfactory provision, proportioned to the growing prosperity of that kingdom, towards defraying, in time of peace, the necessary expences of protecting the trade and general interests of the empire.

Joint Address of both Houses, July 29, 1785.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, have taken into our most serious consideration the important subject of the commercial intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland, recommended in your Majesty's speech at the opening of the present session, and the resolution of the two Houses of Parliament in Ireland, which were laid before us by your Majesty's command, on the 22d of February last.

After a long and careful investigation of the various questions necessarily arising out of this comprehensive subject, we have come to the several resolutions which we now humbly present to your Majesty, and which we trust will form the basis of an advantageous and permanent commercial settlement between your Majesty's kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland.

We have proceeded on the foundation of the resolutions of the Parliament of Ireland; but in considering so extensive an arrangement, we have found it necessary to introduce some modifications and exceptions, and we have added such regulations and conditions as appeared to us indispensably necessary for establishing the proposed agreement on just and equitable principles, and for securing to both countries those commercial advantages to an equal enjoyment of which they are in future to be entitled.

Your Majesty's subjects in Ireland being secured in a full and lasting participation of the trade with the British colonies, must, we are persuaded, acknowledge the justice of their continuing to enjoy it on the same terms with your Majesty's subjects in Great Britain.

And it is, we conceive, equally manifest, that as the ships and mariners of Ireland are to continue in all time to come to enjoy the same privileges with those of Great Britain, the same provision should be adopted in Ireland as may be found necessary in this country, for securing those advantages exclusively to the subjects of the empire. This object is essentially connected with the maritime strength of your Majesty's dominions, and consequently with the safety and prosperity both of Great Britain and Ireland.

We therefore deem it indispensable that these points should be secured as conditions necessary to the existence and duration of the agreement between the two countries; they can only be carried into effect by laws to be passed in the Parliament of Ireland,

land, which are alone competent to bind your Majesty's subjects in that kingdom, and whose legislative rights we shall ever hold as sacred as our own.

It remains for the Parliament of Ireland to judge, according to their wisdom and discretion, of these conditions, as well as of every other part of the settlement proposed to be established by mutual consent.

Our purpose in these resolutions is to promote alike the commercial interests of your Majesty's subjects in both countries; and we are persuaded that the common prosperity of the two kingdoms will be thereby greatly advanced; the subjects of each will in future apply themselves to those branches of commerce which they can exercise with most advantage, and the wealth so diffused through every part will operate as a general benefit of the whole.

We have thus far performed our part in this important business; and we trust that in the whole of its progress reciprocal interests and mutual affection will insure that spirit of union, so essentially necessary to the great end which the two countries have equally in view.

In this persuasion we look forward with confidence to the final completion of a measure which, while it tends to perpetuate harmony and friendship between the two kingdoms, must, by augmenting their resources, uniting their efforts, and consolidating their strength, afford your Majesty the surest means of establishing, on a lasting foundation, the safety, prosperity, and glory of the empire.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I RECEIVE with the greatest satisfaction these resolutions, which, after so long and diligent an investigation, you consider as affording the basis of an advantageous and permanent commercial settlement between my kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland. Nothing can more clearly manifest your regard for the interests of both my kingdoms, and your zeal for the general prosperity of my dominions, than the attention you have given to this important object. A full and equal participation of commercial advantages, and a similarity of laws in those points which are necessary for their preservation and security, must be the surest bond of union between the two kingdoms, and the source of reciprocal and increasing benefits to both. The same spirit in which this great work has begun and proceeded, will, I doubt not, appear throughout the whole of

its progrefs ; and I concur with you in thinking, that the final completion of it is of effential importance to the future happinefs of both countries, and to the fafety, glory, and profperity of the empire.

Auguft 2, 1785.

THE Chancellor of the Exchequer acquainted the Houfe of Commons, that it was the King's pleafure the Houfe fhould be adjourned until Thurfday, the 27th day of October next; and the Houfe accordingly adjourned until Thurfday, the 27th day of October next, from which time it was farther prorogued until Tuefday, the 24th day of January, 1786.

His Majefty's moft gracious Speech, Jan. 24, 1786.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

SINCE I laft met you in Parliament, the difputes which appeared to threaten an interruption to the tranquillity of Europe have been brought to an amicable conclufion; and I continue to receive from foreign powers the ftrongeft affurances of their friendly difpofition towards this country.

At home my fubjects experience the growing bleffings of peace in the extenfion of trade, the improvement of the revenue, and the increafe of the public credit of the nation.

For the farther advancement of thofe important objects, I rely on the continuance of that zeal and induftry which you manifefted in the laft feffion of Parliament.

The refolutions which you laid before me as the bafis of an adjuftment of the commercial intercourfe between Great Britain and Ireland, have been by my directions communicated to the Parliament of that kingdom; but no effectual ftep has hitherto been taken thereupon which can enable you to make any further progrefs in that falutary work.

Gentlemen of the Houfe of Commons,

I have ordered the eftimates for the prefent year to be laid before you: it is my earneft wifh to enforce œconomy in every department; and you will, I am perfuaded, be equally ready to make fuch provifion as may be neceffary for the public fervice, and particularly for maintaining our naval ftrength on the moft fecure and refpectable footing. Above all, let me recommend to you the eftablifhment of a fixed plan for the reduction of the national debt. The flourifhing ftate of the reve-

nue will, I truſt, enable you to effect this important meaſure with little addition to the public burdens.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The vigour and reſources of the country, ſo fully manifeſted in its preſent ſituation, will encourage you in continuing to give your utmoſt attention to every object of national concern, particularly to the conſideration of ſuch meaſures as may be neceſſary in order to give farther ſecurity to the revenue, and to promote and extend as far as poſſible the trade and general induſtry of my ſubjects.

Addreſs of the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, Jan. 24, 1786.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Impreſſed with the fulleſt conviction of the bleſſings which reſult from a ſtate of general peace, it affords us great ſatisfaction to be informed that the diſputes which appeared to threaten an interruption to the tranquillity of Europe, have been brought to an amicable concluſion; and that your Majeſty continues to receive from foreign powers the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of their friendly diſpoſition toward this country.

Earneſtly intereſted in whatever may contribute to the ſtrength and ſplendour of the nation, and the wealth of your Majeſty's ſubjects, we cannot but be deeply ſenſible of the advantages which muſt be derived from the extenſion of trade, the improvement of the revenue, and the increaſe of the public credit.

The promotion of the common intereſt and proſperity of all your Majeſty's ſubjects was the object of thoſe reſolutions which we humbly laid before your Majeſty in the laſt ſeſſion of Parliament, as the foundation of a permanent and equitable adjuſtment of the commercial intercourſe between Great Britain and Ireland; but no effectual ſtep having been taken in conſequence of them by the Parliament of Ireland, the progreſs of that meaſure, however ſalutary, cannot properly become the ſubject of our preſent conſideration.

We humbly entreat your Majeſty to be perſuaded that the vigour and reſources of the country which, with heart-felt ſatisfaction, we obſerve are ſo fully manifeſted in its preſent ſituation, cannot fail to excite a ſtill more active attention to the

the important objects of national concern which your Majesty is pleased to recommend to our consideration, and particularly to such measures as may be necessary to give farther security to the revenue, and to promote and extend, as far as possible, the general industry of our country.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and loyal address.

I receive, with great satisfaction, your assurances, that you will give the strictest attention to the important objects of national concern which I have recommended to your consideration.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Jan. 25, 1786.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our most humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We learn, with great satisfaction, that the disputes which appeared to threaten an interruption to the tranquillity of Europe have been brought to an amicable conclusion; and that your Majesty continues to receive from foreign powers the strongest assurances of their friendly disposition toward this country.

We are deeply sensible of the blessings which we experience from the enjoyment of peace, in the extension of trade, the improvement of the revenue, and the increase of the public credit of the nation; and your Majesty may rely on the utmost exertion of our zeal and industry for the farther advancement of these important objects.

In order to promote, as far as in us lay, the common interests of all your Majesty's subjects, we humbly laid before your Majesty, in the last session of Parliament, several resolutions, as the basis of an adjustment of the commercial intercourse between Great Britan and Ireland; but that, as no effectual step has hitherto been taken thereupon by the Parliament of that kingdom, we do not find ourselves at present enabled to make any farther progress in that salutary work.

We cannot refrain from offering the warmest expressions of our gratitude for your Majesty's gracious assurances of your earnest

earneſt wiſh to enforce œconomy in every department. We ſhall be equally ready, at all times, to make ſuch proviſion as may be neceſſary for every branch of the public ſervice, particularly for maintaining the naval ſtrength of theſe kingdoms on the moſt ſecure and reſpectable footing. Fully impreſſed with the neceſſity of eſtabliſhing a fixed plan for the reduction of the national debt, we ſhall loſe no time in entering on that important conſideration; and it will afford us the moſt ſolid ſatisfaction to find that this moſt deſirable object may be attained with little addition to the public burdens.

The vigour and reſources ſo happily manifeſted in our preſent ſituation muſt give encouragement and confidence to all your Majeſty's ſubjects, and cannot fail to animate our exertions in endeavouring, by a continued attention to the ſecurity of the revenue, and the extenſion of trade, to confirm and improve the increaſing proſperity of the empire.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful addreſs.

I receive, with great ſatisfaction, the aſſurances of your diſpoſition to enter with zeal and induſtry on the conſideration of thoſe important and ſalutary objects which I have recommended to your attention.

Meſſage from his Majeſty, March 29, 1786.

GEORGE R. x.

IT gives his Majeſty great concern that it has not been found poſſible to confine the neceſſary expences of his civil government within the annual ſum of eight hundred and fifty thouſand pounds, now applicable thereto. A farther debt has been neceſſarily incurred, an account of which he has ordered to be laid before the Houſe.

His Majeſty relies on the zeal and affection of his faithful Commons, that they will take the ſame into their early conſideration, and make ſuch proviſion as the circumſtances may appear to them to require.

G. R.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 11, 1786.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT close this session of Parliament, without expressing the particular satisfaction with which I have observed your diligent attention to the public business, and the measures you have adopted for improving the resources of the country.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I thank you for the supplies which you have granted for the service of the current year, and for the provision you have made for discharging the incumbrances on the revenue applicable to the uses of my civil government: the most salutary effects are to be expected from the plan adopted for the reduction of the national debt; an object which I consider as inseparably connected with the essential interests of the public.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The assurances which I continue to receive from abroad promise the continuance of general tranquillity.

The happy effects of peace have already appeared in the extension of the national commerce; and no measures shall be wanting on my part which can tend to confirm these advantages, and to give additional encouragement to the manufactures and industry of my people.

Then the Speaker, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the fourteenth day of September next, to be then here holden: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the fourteenth day of September next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Jan. 23, 1787.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I HAVE particular satisfaction in acquainting you, that since I last met you in Parliament, the tranquillity of Europe has remained uninterrupted, and that all foreign powers continue to express their friendly disposition to this country.

I have

I have concluded a treaty of navigation and commerce with the most Christian King, a copy of which shall be laid before you. I must recommend it to you to take such measures as you shall judge proper for carrying it into effect; and I trust you will find that the provisions contained in it are calculated for the encouragement of industry and the extension of lawful commerce in both countries, and by promoting a beneficial intercourse between our respective subjects, appear likely to give additional permanence to the blessings of peace. I shall keep the same salutary objects in view, in the commercial arrangements which I am negotiating with other powers.

I have also given directions for laying before you a copy of a convention agreed upon between me and the Catholic King, for carrying into effect the sixth article of the last treaty of peace.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have ordered the estimates for the present year to be laid before you, and I have the fullest reliance in your readiness to make due provision for the several branches of the public service.

The state of the revenue will, I am persuaded, continue to engage your constant attention, as being essentially connected with the national credit and the prosperity and safety of my dominions.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

A plan has been formed, by my direction, for transporting a number of convicts, in order to remove the inconvenience which arose from the crowded state of the gaols in different parts of the kingdom; and you will, I doubt not, take such further measures as may be necessary for this purpose.

I trust you will be able, in this session, to carry into effect regulations for the ease of the merchants, and for simplifying the public accounts in the various branches of the revenue; and I rely upon the uniform continuance of your exertions in pursuit of such objects as may tend still further to improve the national resources, and to promote and confirm the welfare and happiness of my people.

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, January 23, 1787.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us to express to your Majesty the eagerness with which we take the earliest opportunity offered to us of joining the unanimous voice of our fellow subjects in congratulating your Majesty on the late providential interposition of the Almighty, in the preservation of a life so valuable to your people. We acknowledge, with reverence and gratitude, the Divine goodness, in averting the calamity with which we were threatened. We join in the general admiration of those virtues which compose your Majesty's character; and humbly beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we are happy in testifying the share we take in the loyal and affectionate attachment to your sacred person, which pervades the breasts of your Majesty's subjects in every part of your dominions.

It is with most sincere concern that we condole your Majesty upon the loss which you have sustained by the unfortunate death of that illustrious and excellent princess, your Majesty's aunt, her royal highness the Princess Amelia.

The present appearances of the preservation of the public tranquillity, as well as the assurances given to your Majesty by foreign powers, of their friendly disposition to this country, give us the greatest satisfaction.

We return your Majesty our hearty thanks for your goodness in directing the treaty of navigation and commerce with the most Christian King, and the convention with his Catholic Majesty, to be laid before us; and we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that in considering measures of so important and interesting a nature, we shall be happy to find in them a tendency to give an additional permanency to the blessings of peace, the encouragement of industry, and the extension of lawful commerce between your Majesty's subjects and those of the most Christian King; and that we shall, with pleasure, concur in any regulations calculated to insure those salutary purposes.

We learn, with great satisfaction, that your Majesty has taken measures for the transportation of a number of convicts, and for removing the inconveniencies which arise from the crowded state of the gaols; and we beg your Majesty will be

assured

aſſured, that we ſhall be ready to concur in ſuch farther proviſions as may be found neceſſary for this purpoſe.

We ſhall, with the ſame readineſs, co-operate in whatever regulations may appear to be proper for the eaſe of the merchants, and for the ſimplifying the public accounts in the various branches of the revenue; and your Majeſty may depend upon our beſt and ſteadieſt exertions in purſuit of ſuch meaſures as may tend ſtill farther to improve the national reſources, and to promote and confirm what has ever been the firſt object of the parental care and attention of your Majeſty, the welfare and happineſs of your people.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful addreſs.

Your expreſſions of affectionate attachment to my perſon, and zeal for my government, as well as your aſſurances of proceeding to the conſideration of the important objects which I have recommended to you, give me the greateſt ſatisfaction.

Addreſs of the Houſe of Commons to his Majeſty, Jan. 24, 1787.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks, for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne; and to take the earlieſt opportunity of offering to your Majeſty, in our own name, and in that of all the Commons of Great Britain, our moſt hearty congratulations on the preſervation of a life ſo juſtly dear to your people; and to expreſs our ſenſe of the peculiar favour of Providence in averting the danger to which we were expoſed, and rendering it only the occaſion of manifeſting, in the fulleſt manner, thoſe ſentiments of duty and affectionate attachment to your ſacred perſon, which are deeply rooted in the hearts of all your Majeſty's ſubjects.

We condole with your Majeſty on the unfortunate death of that moſt illuſtrious and excellent Princeſs, your Majeſty's aunt, the Princeſs Amelia.

It is with great ſatisfaction we learn, that the tranquillity of Europe remains uninterrupted; and, that your Majeſty conti-

nues to receive aſſurances from all foreign powers of their friendly diſpoſition towards this country. We are ſenſible of your Majeſty's goodneſs in having directed the treaty of commerce and navigation with the moſt Chriſtian King, and the convention agreed upon with the Catholic King, to be laid before us; both theſe events, particularly a meaſure ſo important and extenſive as a commercial arrangement between this country and France, muſt be highly intereſting to us and our conſtituents, and it will afford us the trueſt ſatisfaction to concur in any meaſure calculated for the encouragement of induſtry, and the extenſion of lawful commerce, and which, by promoting a beneficial intercourſe between the two countries, ſhall appear likely to give additional permanence to the bleſſings of peace.

Your Majeſty may at all times rely on our readineſs to make due proviſion for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice; and the ſtate of the revenue, ſo nearly connected with the national credit, and the ſafety and proſperity of your Majeſty's dominions, will continue to engage our unremitting attention.

We ſhall not fail to take ſuch meaſures as may be neceſſary for the tranſportation of convicts, in order to remedy the inconvenience which has ariſen from the crowded ſtate of the jails in different parts of the kingdom.

We ſhall diligently apply ourſelves to the conſideration of any regulations which can be adopted for the eaſe of the merchants, and for ſimplifying the public accounts in the various branches of the revenue; and it will be equally our duty and inclination to uſe our utmoſt exertions in purſuit of ſuch objects as may tend ſtill farther to improve the national reſources, and to ſecond your Majeſty's gracious and paternal wiſhes for the welfare and happineſs of your people.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful addreſs.

The warm expreſſions of your affectionate attachment to my perſon, and the aſſurances of your intention to apply with diligence to thoſe intereſting objects which I have recommended to your conſideration, afford me peculiar ſatisfaction.

Joint

Joint Address of both Houses to his Majesty, March 6, 1787.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, having taken into our most serious consideration the provisions contained in the treaty of navigation and commerce concluded between your Majesty and the most Christian King, beg leave to approach your Majesty with our sincere and grateful acknowledgments, for this additional proof of your Majesty's constant attention to the welfare and happiness of your subjects. We shall proceed with all proper expedition in taking such steps as may be necessary for giving effect to a system so well calculated to promote a beneficial intercourse between Great Britain and France, and to give additional permanence to the blessings of peace.

It is our firm persuasion, that we cannot more effectually consult the general interest of our country, and the glory of your Majesty's reign, than by concurring in a measure which tends to the extension of trade, and the encouragement of industry and manufacture, the genuine sources of national wealth, and the surest foundation of the prosperity and happiness of your Majesty's dominions.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my thanks for this loyal and dutiful address. The declaration of your sentiments, formed after the most serious consideration of the treaty of navigation and commerce between me and the most Christian King, affords me the truest satisfaction; and I receive with pleasure the assurances of your intention to proceed with all proper expedition in taking such steps as may be necessary for giving it effect.

Message from his Majesty, May 21, 1787.

GEORGE REX.

IT is with great concern his Majesty acquaints the House of Commons, that from the accounts which have been laid before his Majesty by the Prince of Wales, it appears that the Prince has incurred a debt to a large amount, which, if left to be discharged out of his annual income, would render it im-

possible for him to support an establishment suited to his rank and station.

Painful as it is at all times to his Majesty to propose an addition to the heavy expences necessarily borne by his people, his Majesty is induced, from his paternal affection to the Prince of Wales, to recur to the liberality and attachment of his faithful Commons for their assistance, on an occasion so interesting to his Majesty's feelings, and to the ease and honour of so distinguished a branch of his royal family.

His Majesty could not, however, expect or desire the assistance of this House, but on a well-grounded expectation that the Prince will avoid contracting any debts in future.

With a view to this object, and from an anxious desire to remove any possible doubt of the sufficiency of the Prince's income to support amply the dignity of his situation, his Majesty has directed a sum of 10,000*l.* per annum to be paid out of his civil list in addition to the allowance which his Majesty has hitherto given him; and his Majesty has the satisfaction to inform the House, that the Prince of Wales has given his Majesty the fullest assurance of his determination to confine his future expences within the income, and has also settled a plan for arranging those expences in the several departments, and for fixing an order for payment under such regulations as his Majesty trusts will effectually secure the due execution of the Prince's intentions.

His Majesty will direct an estimate to be laid before the House, of the sum wanting to complete, in a proper manner, the work which has been undertaken at Carleton house, as soon as the same can be prepared with sufficient accuracy, and recommends it to his faithful Commons to consider of making some provision for that purpose.

G. R.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, May 30, 1787.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT close this session of Parliament without expressing my entire approbation of the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the important objects which I recommended to your attention, and at the same time returning you my particular thanks for the proofs which you have given of your affection for me, and for my family and government.

The assurances which I receive from foreign powers of their good disposition to this country, and the continuance of the general tranquility of Europe, afford me great satisfaction; but

but dissensions unhappily prevail among the states of the United Provinces, which, as a friend and well-wisher to the Republic, I cannot see without the most real concern.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The cheerfulness with which you have granted the necessary supplies, and the ample manner in which you have provided for the several establishments, demand my sincerest thanks.

I see with particular satisfaction that you have, at the same time, been able to furnish the sum annually appropriated to the reduction of the national debt without imposing any new burdens on my people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I reflect with peculiar pleasure on the measures which you have taken for enabling me to carry into effect the treaty of navigation and commerce with the most Christian King, and for facilitating the collection, and simplifying the accounts of the various branches of the revenue, which, I trust, will be productive of the most beneficial effects. And I rely upon your using your best endeavours in your several counties to carry into effect the measures which have been taken for the prevention of illicit trade, and to promote good order and industry among every class of my subjects,

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Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament will be prorogued to Tuesday, the 31st day of July next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the 31st day of July next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 27, 1787.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AT the close of the last session I informed you of the concern with which I observed the disputes unhappily subsisting in the Republic of the United Provinces.

Their situation soon afterwards became more critical and alarming, and the danger which threatened their constitution and independence seemed likely in its consequences to affect the security and interests of my dominions.

No endeavours were wanting on my part to contribute, by my good offices, to the restoration of tranquillity, and the maintenance of the lawful government; and I also thought it necessary to explain my intention of counteracting all forcible interference on the part of France in the internal affairs of the Republic. Under these circumstances the King of Prussia having taken measures to enforce his demand of satisfaction for the insult offered to the Princess of Orange, the party, which had usurped the government of Holland, applied to the most Christian King for assistance, who notified to me his intention of granting their request.

In conformity to the principles which I had before explained, I did not hesitate, on receiving this notification, to declare, that I could not remain a quiet spectator of the armed interference of France, and I gave immediate orders for augmenting my forces both by sea and land.

In the course of these transactions I also thought proper to conclude a treaty with the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel, by which I secured the assistance of a considerable body of troops, in case my service should require it.

In the mean time the rapid success of the Prussian troops, under the conduct of the Duke of Brunswick, while it was the means of obtaining the reparation demanded by the King of Prussia, enabled the provinces to deliver themselves from the oppression under which they laboured, and to re-establish their lawful government.

All subjects of contest being thus removed, an amicable explanation took place between me and the most Christian King; and declarations have been exchanged by our respective ministers, by which we have agreed mutually to disarm, and to place our naval establishments on the same footing as in the beginning of the present year.

It gives me the greatest satisfaction that the important events which I have communicated to you have taken place, without disturbing my subjects in the enjoyment of the blessings of peace; and I have great pleasure in acquainting you, that I continue to receive, from all foreign powers, the fullest assurances of their pacific and friendly disposition towards this country. I must, at the same time, regret, that the tranquillity of one part of Europe is unhappily interrupted by the war which has broken out between Russia and the Porte.

A convention has been agreed upon between me and the most Christian King, explanatory of the 13th article of the last treaty of peace, and calculated to prevent jealousies and disputes between our respective subjects in the East Indies. I have ordered copies of the several treaties to which I have referred,

and

and of the declaration and counter-declaration exchanged at Verſailles, to be laid before you.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the eſtimates for the enſuing year to be laid before you, together with an account of the extraordinary expences which the ſituation of affairs rendered neceſſary.

I have the fulleſt reliance on your zeal and public ſpirit, that you will make due proviſion for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice. I am always deſirous of confining thoſe expences within the narroweſt limits which a prudent regard to the public ſafety will permit; but I muſt, at the ſame time, recommend it to your particular attention to conſider of the proper means for maintaining my diſtant poſſeſſions in an adequate poſture of defence.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The flouriſhing ſtate of the commerce and revenue of this country cannot fail to encourage you in the purſuit of ſuch meaſures as may confirm and improve ſo favourable a ſituation.

Theſe circumſtances muſt alſo render you peculiarly anxious for the continuance of public tranquillity, which it is my conſtant object to preſerve.

I am, at the ſame time, perſuaded that you will agree with me in thinking, that nothing can more effectually tend to ſecure ſo invaluable a bleſſing, than the zeal and unanimity which were ſhown by all ranks of my ſubjects on the late occaſion, and which manifeſted their readineſs to exert themſelves whenever the honour of my crown and the intereſts of my dominions may require it.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Peers to his Majeſty, Nov. 27, 1787.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We acknowledge with heart-felt gratitude your Majeſty's conſtant regard to the intereſts of your people, which could not be more fully manifeſted than by your attention to the diſputes lately ſubſiſting in the Republic of the United Provinces.

The danger with which their conſtitution and independence were threatened, could not but affect in its probable conſequences the ſecurity and intereſts of your Majeſty's kingdoms.

We beg leave, therefore, humbly to exprefs our higheft approbation of your Majefty's juft and wife determination, to counteract all forcible interference on the part of France in the internal affairs of the Republic; and we acknowledge in the fulleft manner, the propriety and neceffity of the declaration made by your Majefty, in conformity to thefe principles, when the intention of the moft Chriftian King to affift the party, which had ufurped the government of Holland, was notified to your Majefty. And we cannot but heartily applaud the wife and vigorous fteps taken by your Majefty, for the augmentation of your forces by fea and land; meafures which, while they prepared the country for the emergency which might arife, were the moft likely to prolong the bleffings of peace.

We learn with particular fatisfaction the rapid fuccefs of the Pruffian troops, under the aufpicious conduct of his ferene highnefs the Duke of Brunfwick, which has obtained for his Pruffian Majefty the juft reparation which he demanded, and enabled the provinces to deliver themfelves from the oppreffion under which they laboured, as well as to eftablifh their ancient and lawful government.

The important events which have taken place, without difturbing your Majefty's fubjects in the enjoyment of the bleffings of peace, afford matter of cordial congratulation to your Majefty; and we are happy to fee your Majefty enabled to enter into an agreement with the moft Chriftian King for difarming, and placing the naval eftablifhment of the two countries upon the fame footing as in the beginning of the prefent year.

We beg leave to return our humble thanks to your Majefty for ordering the feveral treaties and conventions to be laid before this Houfe, and to affure your Majefty that we fhall fee with fatisfaction any arrangement calculated to prevent jealoufies and difputes between your Majefty's fubjects and thofe of the moft Chriftian King in the Eaft Indies.

Your Majefty may depend upon our concurrence in fuch meafures as it may feem expedient to adopt, in confequence of the other engagements entered into by your Majefty, as well as fuch as may be neceffary for placing your Majefty's diftant poffeffions in an adequate pofture of defence.

The flourifhing ftate of the commerce and revenues afford us the higheft fatisfaction, and cannot fail to ftimulate us to ufe our utmoft endeavours to confirm and improve fuch important advantages, as well as to concur with your Majefty's paternal wifhes for the continuation of the public tranquillity. We lament that hoftilities fhould have broken out in any part of Europe; but we receive with fatisfaction the information that

your

your Majesty continues to be assured of the pacific disposition of all foreign powers towards this country.

We reflect with pleasure on the zeal and unanimity shown by all ranks of your Majesty's subjects on the late occasion, as it must give more weight to the assurances we now humbly offer to your Majesty, that, with every wish to cultivate the blessings of peace, we shall be always ready to exert ourselves to the utmost, when the honour of your Majesty's crown, and the interests of your people may require it.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this affectionate and loyal address. The satisfaction which you have unanimously expressed in the measures I have taken is particularly agreeable to me. You may depend, that both in war and peace, my constant objects shall be the honour of my crown, and the advancement of the interests of my people.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 28, 1787.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

Your faithful Commons acknowledge with gratitude your Majesty's regard for the welfare and interests of your people, manifested by your attention to the disputes which unhappily subsisted in the Republic of the United Provinces, and by your endeavours to promote the restoration of their internal tranquillity, and the maintenance of their lawful government.

We are sensible that the danger which lately threatened the constitution and independence of the United Provinces was likely in its consequences to affect the security and interests of your Majesty's dominions; and we particularly applaud your Majesty's just determination to counteract all forcible interference on the part of France in the internal affairs of the Republic.

We feel, in the strongest manner, the propriety and necessity of the declaration made by your Majesty in conformity to those principles, when the intention of the Most Christian King was notified to your Majesty, as well as of the seasonable

and

and vigorous steps taken for the immediate augmentation of your Majesty's forces, both by sea and land.

The rapid and brilliant success of the Prussian arms, under the conduct of his serene highness the Duke of Brunswick, affords us matter of peculiar satisfaction, both as it was the means of obtaining the reparation demanded by the King of Prussia, and as it has enabled the provinces to deliver themselves from the oppression under which they laboured, and to re-establish their lawful government.

We cordially congratulate your Majesty on the important events which have taken place without disturbing your Majesty's subjects in the enjoyment of the blessings of peace, and which have enabled your Majesty to enter into an agreement with the Most Christian King for mutually disarming, and placing the naval establishments of the two countries on the same footing as in the beginning of the present year.

We are sensible of your Majesty's goodness in the communication of the several treaties and declarations which your Majesty has ordered to be laid before this House: we shall see with pleasure any arrangement properly calculated to prevent jealousies and disputes between your Majesty's subjects and those of the Most Christian King in the East Indies; and we shall proceed, without loss of time, to consider what steps it may be fit to take, in consequence of the other engagements entered into by your Majesty.

Your Majesty may be assured of our readiness to make such provision as may be necessary for defraying the extraordinary expences which have been incurred by your Majesty, and for carrying on the several branches of the current service.

We shall make it the object of our immediate attention to consider what measures it may be expedient to adopt for maintaining your Majesty's distant possessions in an adequate posture of defence; and we shall proceed with unremitting assiduity in the pursuit of measures which may tend to confirm and improve the favourable situation of affairs.

The flourishing state of the commerce and revenue of the country must make us concur with more peculiar earnestness in your Majesty's paternal wishes for the maintenance of the public tranquillity. On this account, while we see with concern the war which has unhappily broken out between Russia and the Porte, we have great satisfaction in learning that your Majesty continues to receive from all foreign powers the fullest assurances of their pacific disposition towards this country.

We are thoroughly sensible that nothing can more effectually tend to secure the invaluable blessings of peace, than the zeal and unanimity which was shewn by all ranks of your Majesty's

jesty's

jesty's subjects on the late occasion, and which manifest their readiness to exert themselves whenever the honour of your Majesty's crown, and the interests of your dominions may require it.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 11, 1788.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN the present advanced season of the year, and after the laborious attendance which the public business has required of you, I think it necessary to put an end to the present session of Parliament. I cannot do this without expressing the satisfaction with which I have observed the uniform and diligent attention to the welfare of my people which has appeared in all your proceedings.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The cheerfulness and liberality with which you have granted the necessary supplies, demand my particular acknowledgments. It must afford you the greatest satisfaction that you have been enabled, without any addition to the burdens of my people, to provide for the extraordinary exigencies of the last year, in addition to the current demands of the public service, and to the sum annually appropriated to the reduction of the national debt.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I see with concern the continuance of the war between Russia and the Porte, in which the Emperor has also taken a part. But the general state of Europe, and the assurances which I receive from foreign powers, afford me every reason to expect that my subjects will continue to enjoy the blessings of peace.

The engagements which I have recently entered into with my good brother the King of Prussia, and those with the States General of the United Provinces, which have already been communicated to you, are directed to this object, which I have uniformly in view; and they will, I trust, be productive of the happiest consequences, in promoting the security and welfare of my own dominions, and in contributing to the general tranquillity of Europe.

Then

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of September next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of September next.

House of Commons, Nov. 20, 1788.

THE Parliament having been, upon the 25th day of September last, prorogued to this day, a great number of members assembled in the House:

And it being understood, that in consequence of his Majesty's indisposition no orders had been received from his Majesty, with respect either to the holding or further proroguing the Parliament on this day—

Mr. Speaker of the House of Commons was called to the chair, and he took the chair accordingly.

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer acquainted the House, that the state of his Majesty's health was such, as, for the present, made impossible for his Majesty's servants to receive his commands; in consequence of which the House was assembled without having had the usual notice, by proclamation, of a meeting for the dispatch of business, and without there appearing any regular authority either for the opening the session in the accustomed manner, or for farther proroguing the Parliament; and that under these circumstances, he should propose to the House, that at their rising this day, they should adjourn to this day fortnight.

It was then resolved that this House do adjourn till the 4th day of December next; when

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer informed the House that they were again assembled in the same unhappy circumstances which he had been under the melancholy necessity of communicating at their last meeting, the continuance of his Majesty's illness still preventing any measures either for opening the session or proroguing the Parliament, and rendering it for the present, impossible for his Majesty personally to attend to any public business: that in this situation the privy council had thought it their duty to call before them his Majesty's physicians and examine them, on oath, concerning the state of his Majesty's health, a copy of which examination he had in his hand. That as he could in no other way give the House any information

information equally accurate and authentic on this important subject; and as he had the permission and direction of the privy council to tender this paper to the House, he wished to know their pleasure as to the mode of communicating it; and if there appeared no objection in point of form, which he conceived there could not, he would propose to deliver it in at the table, and move that it might be read by the clerk, which was agreed to by the House; and the House then adjourned to the 8th of December next, when a committee was appointed to examine the physicians who had attended his Majesty, touching the state of his Majesty's health, and to report such examination to the House; which report being made,

On the 10th of December a committee was appointed, to examine and report precedents of such proceedings as may have been had in the case of the personal exercise of the royal authority being prevented or interrupted by infancy, sickness, infirmity, or otherwise, with a view to provide a remedy for the same; which report was made to the House on the 12th of December.

On the 16th of December the House resolved itself into a committee on the state of the nation; and the chairman of the said committee made the following report to the House on the 19th instant.

Resolved, That it appears to this committee, that his Majesty is prevented by his present indisposition from coming to his Parliament, and from attending to public business: and that the personal exercise of the royal authority by his Majesty is thereby, for the present, interrupted.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that it is the right and duty of the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons of Great Britain, now assembled, and lawfully, fully, and freely representing all the estates of the people of this realm, to provide the means of supplying the defect of the personal exercise of the royal authority, arising from his Majesty's said indisposition, in such manner as the exigency of the case may seem to them to require.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that for this purpose, and for maintaining entire the constitutional authority of the King, it is necessary that the said Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons of Great Britain, should determine on the means whereby the royal assent may be given in Parliament to such bill as may be passed by the two Houses of Parliament respecting the exercise of the powers and authorities of the crown, in the name and on the behalf of the King, during the continuance of his Majesty's present indisposition.

Which

Which resolutions were sent to the House of Lords for their concurrence; and, in consequence of the indisposition, and afterwards the death, of the Right Hon. Charles Wolfran Cornwall, Speaker of the House of Commons, the report from the House of Peers was not received until the 5th of January, 1789, when the Marquis of Worcester reported that their Lordships had agreed to the same.

On the 19th of January the House resolved itself into a committee on the state of the nation, when the following resolutions were severally proposed and agreed to:

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that for the purpose of providing for the exercise of the King's royal authority during the continuance of his Majesty's illness, in such manner, and to such extent as the present circumstances of the urgent concerns of the nation appear to require, it is expedient that his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, being resident within the realm, shall be empowered to exercise and administer the royal authority according to the laws and constitution of Great Britain, in the name and on the behalf of his Majesty, under the style and title of Regent of the Kingdom, and to use, execute, and perform, in the name, and on the behalf of his Majesty, all authorities, prerogatives, acts of government, and administration of the same, which belong to the King of this realm, to use, execute, and perform according to the law thereof, subject to such limitations and exceptions as shall be provided.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that the power so to be given to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales shall not extend to the granting of any rank or dignity of the peerage of the realm to any person whatever, except to his Majesty's royal issue, who shall have attained the full age of twenty-one years.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that the said powers should not extend to the granting of any office whatever in reversion, or to the granting of any office, salary, or pension, for any other term than during his Majesty's pleasure, except such offices as are by law required to be granted for life, or during good behaviour.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that the said powers should not extend to the granting of any part of his Majesty's real or personal estate, except so far as relates to the renewal of leases.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this committee, that the care of his Majesty's royal person, during the continuance of his Majesty's illness, should be committed to the Queen's most

excellent Majesty, and that her Majesty should have power to remove from, and to nominate and appoint such persons as she shall think proper to the several offices in his Majesty's household, and to dispose, order, and manage all other matters and things relating to the care of his Majesty's royal person during the time aforesaid: and that for the better enabling her Majesty to discharge this important trust, it is also expedient that a council should be appointed, to advise and assist her Majesty in the several matters aforesaid, and with power, from time to time, as they may see cause, to examine, upon oath, the physicians and others attending his Majesty's person, touching the state of his Majesty's health, and all matters relative thereto.

The above resolutions received the concurrence of the House of Lords on the 28th of January; and were ordered to be presented to her Majesty and to the Prince of Wales, with an humble address—" That they will be graciously pleased to " undertake the important trust proposed to be invested in " them, as soon as an act of Parliament shall have been passed " for carrying the said resolutions into effect."

Mr. Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the 2d of February, reported to the House, that the Prince of Wales had been waited on with their resolutions and address, to which he had been pleased to make the following answer:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I thank you for communicating to me the resolutions agreed to by the two Houses, and I request you to assure them, in my name, that my duty to the King my father, and my anxious concern for the safety and interests of the people, which must be endangered by a longer suspension of the exercise of the royal authority, together with my respect for the united desires of the two Houses, outweigh in my mind every other consideration; and will determine me to undertake the weighty and important trust proposed to me. I am sensible of the difficulties that must attend the execution of this trust, in the peculiar circumstances in which it is committed to my charge, of which, as I am acquainted with no former example, my hope of a successful administration cannot be founded on any past experience. But considering that the limitations on the exercise of the royal authority, deemed necessary for the present, have been approved by the two Houses only as a temporary measure, founded on the loyal hope, in which I ardently participate, that his Majesty's disorder may not be of long duration; and trusting,

trusting, in the mean while, that I shall receive a zealous and united support in the two Houses and in the nation, proportioned to the difficulties attending the discharge of my trust in this interval, I will entertain the pleasing hope, that my faithful endeavours to preserve the interests of the King, his crown, and people, may be successful.

And that her Majesty had also been attended with their resolution and address, and that she had been pleased to say:

"My duty and gratitude to the King, and the sense I must ever entertain of my great obligations to this country, will certainly engage my most earnest attention to the anxious and momentous trust intended to be reposed in me by Parliament. It will be a great consolation to me to receive the aid of a council, of which I shall stand so much in need, in the discharge of a duty wherein the happiness of my future life is, indeed, deeply interested, but which a higher object, the happiness of a great, loyal, and affectionate people, renders still more important."

On the 2d of February, a message was delivered from the House of Lords, desiring the concurrence of the Commons to the following resolutions, viz.

That it is expedient and necessary, that letters patent should pass under the great seal of Great Britain, of the tenor and in the form following:

George the Third, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, and so forth: To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting: Whereas we have lately, for divers difficult and pressing affairs, concerning us and the state and defence of our kingdom of Great Britain, and the church, ordained this our present Parliament to begin and to be held at our city of Westminster, on the 18th day of May, in the twenty-fourth year of our reign, on which day our Parliament was begun and held, and from thence, by several adjournments and prorogations, was adjourned and prorogued to and until Thursday, the 20th day of November last, then to be held and sit at our city of Westminster aforesaid: and forasmuch as, for certain causes, we cannot conveniently be present in our royal person in our said Parliament, know ye, that we, trusting in the discretion, fidelity, and care, of the most reverend Father in God, and our faithful counsellor, John, Archbishop of Canterbury, primate and metropolitan of all England; our well-beloved and faithful counsellor, Edward, Lord Thurlow, Lord Chancellor of Great Britain,

Britain; our moſt dear couſins and counſellors, Charles Earl Camden, Preſident of our Council; Granville Marquis of Stafford, Keeper of our Privy Seal; James Duke of Chandos, Steward of our Houſhold; Charles Duke of Richmond; George Duke of Montagu; James Earl of Saliſbury, Chamberlain of our Houſhold; John Earl of Chatham; Henry Earl of Bathurſt; Thomas Viſcount Weymouth; Francis Lord Oſborne, one of our principal Secretaries of State; Thomas Lord Sydney, one other of our principal Secretaries of State; and Lloyd Lord Kenyon, our Chief Juſtice aſſigned to hold pleas before us, by the advice of the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, and Commons, aſſembled according to the prorogation aforeſaid, do give and grant, by the tenor of theſe preſents, unto the moſt reverend Father in God, John Archbiſhop of Canterbury, &c. and any three of them, full power in our name to hold our ſaid Parliament, and to open and declare, and cauſe to be opened and declared, the cauſes of holding the ſame, and to proceed upon the ſaid affairs in our ſaid Parliament, and in all matters ariſing therein, and to do every thing which, for us, and by us, for the government of our ſaid kingdom of Great Britain, and other dominions thereunto belonging, ſhall be there to be done, commanding alſo, by the tenor of theſe preſents, with the advice aforeſaid, as well all and ſingular the archbiſhops, dukes, marquiſſes, earls, viſcounts, biſhops, barons, knights, citizens, burgeſſes, and commiſſioners, for our counties and boroughs, as all others whom it concerns, to meet in our ſaid Parliament; that to the ſame the moſt reverend Father in God, and our faithful counſellor, John Archbiſhop of Canterbury, &c. and any three of them, they diligently intend in the premiſes, in the form aforeſaid. In witneſs whereof, we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs ourſelf at Weſtminſter, this 3d day of February, in the twenty-ninth year of our reign: by the King himſelf, with the advice of the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, and Commons aſſembled, according to the prorogation aforeſaid.

The above reſolution was agreed to by the Houſe of Commons, and on the 2d of February the new Speaker (the Right Hon. William Wyndham Grenville) deſired to call the attention of the Houſe to a circumſtance reſpecting his own ſituation, as poſſibly the Houſe might, to-morrow, be deſired to attend the commiſſioners to be authoriſed by his Majeſty's commiſſion for opening the ſeſſion of Parliament: he ſaid, that after the election of a Speaker, it had been the uſage of Parliament for the Houſe to preſent the Speaker to his Majeſty,

or his Majesty's commissioners, for the royal approbation, at which time the Speaker (being approved) requested his Majesty's gracious indulgence for any omissions of his in the execution of his office; and, if it was at the beginning of a Parliament, did also, on behalf of the Commons, lay claim to their ancient rights and privileges; but if the election of the Speaker was in the middle of a Parliament, the Speaker was presented for the royal approbation, but the claim on behalf of the House was omitted. Mr. Speaker added, that in the present case he had received no directions from the House for his conduct in this respect, and that it was his intention to follow the precedents of the Restoration and the Revolution, in which cases the Speaker was not presented for the royal approbation; but he further added, that if the House thought proper to give him any special directions, it would be his duty to obey them.

On the 3d of February the Speaker reported to the House the speech of Earl Bathurst (one of the commissioners appointed under the great seal of Great Britain for opening and holding the Parliament) in the House of Peers, which was as follows:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN pursuance of the authority given us by his Majesty's commission under the great seal, which has been now read, amongst other things, to declare the causes of your present meeting, we have only to call your attention to the melancholy circumstance of his Majesty's illness, in consequence of which it becomes necessary to provide for the care of his Majesty's royal person, and for the administration of the royal authority, during the continuance of this calamity, in such manner as the exigency of the case appears to require.

On the 19th of February, the Lord Chancellor rose in the House of Peers, and observed, that it was not without the utmost pleasure he felt it in his power to inform the House, that, since his Majesty's physicians had pronounced him to be in a state of *convalescence*, the accounts of his progressive improvement had daily increased, and the recent intelligence from Kew was so favourable, that he conceived every noble Lord would agree with him in acknowledging, that it would be indecent to go on with the proceedings in which they were engaged under the present circumstances, when the principle of the bill might possibly be entirely done away. Every one of their Lordships, he was persuaded, would entertain the same

senti-

ſentiment on the ſame ſubject, and amidſt the general joy which the happy and reaſonable expectation of his Majeſty's ſpeedy return muſt occaſion, he had no doubt that the Houſe would conſider it as abſolutely neceſſary to wait a few days, and until a fuller aſcertainment of the nature of the progreſs towards a perfect and complete recovery in his Majeſty's health, before they went farther with the bill appointing a regency. Congratulating their Lordſhips and the country, therefore, on the favourable proſpect of that event, to which the wiſhes and prayers of all his Majeſty's ſubjects were directed, he would humbly ſubmit to their Lordſhips the propriety of the committee's being adjourned until the immediately enſuing Tueſday.

On Tueſday the 24th of February, the Lord Chancellor having premiſed, that every ſtatement, alluſive to the ſtrongeſt probability of the ſpeedily approaching recovery of his Majeſty, warranted his preſuming, that the ſame reaſons which before actuated their Lordſhips, and induced them to adjourn on the preceding Tueſday, would prevail for a further delay, moved to adjourn until the Monday following.

On Monday the 2d of March, the Lord Chancellor obſerved, that as the ſtate of his Majeſty's health became daily more and more favourable, and as it was neceſſary for its perfect re-eſtabliſhment, that the preſſure of public buſineſs ſhould come upon him as gradually as poſſible, he ſhould move that the Houſe do adjourn to the enſuing Thurſday.

On Thurſday the 5th of March, the Lord Chancellor having previouſly remarked, that their Lordſhips had adjourned on the preceding Monday, and indeed delayed entering upon the order which had been juſt read, from time to time, under the idea that it was proper to afford his Majeſty as much ſpace for recovery before he engaged in buſineſs, as could be conſiſtent with the preſſure of public affairs, added, that ſubſequently to their laſt adjournment, his Majeſty found his health ſo much better eſtabliſhed, that he was in hopes of communicating to that Houſe, on Tueſday next, ſuch other public buſineſs as was neceſſary to be laid before them for their conſideration and diſpatch: he ſhould therefore move, that the order be farther adjourned to the Tueſday following.

The Houſe accordingly adjourned until the 10th of March, when the Lord Chancellor ſpoke as follows:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HIS Majeſty, not thinking fit to be preſent here this day, in his royal perſon, has been pleaſed to cauſe a commiſſion to be iſſued under his great ſeal, authoriſing and commanding the commiſſioners who are appointed by former letters patent to hold this Parliament, to open and declare certain further cauſes for holding the ſame; which commiſſion you will now hear read.

The commiſſion was then read; after which his Lordſhip delivered the following meſſage from his Majeſty:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN obedience to his Majeſty's commands, and by virtue of both commiſſions already mentioned to you, (one of which has now been read) we proceed to lay before you ſuch further matters as his Majeſty has judged proper to be now communicated to his Parliament.

His Majeſty being, by the bleſſing of Providence, happily recovered from the ſevere indiſpoſition with which he has been afflicted, and being enabled to attend to the public affairs of his kingdoms, has commanded us to convey to you his warmeſt acknowledgments for the additional proofs which you have given of your affectionate attachment to his perſon, and of your zealous concern for the honour and intereſts of his crown, and the ſecurity and good government of his dominions.

The interruption which has neceſſarily been occaſioned to the public buſineſs will, his Majeſty doubts not, afford you an additional incitement to apply yourſelves, with as little delay as poſſible, to the different objects of national concern which require your attention.

His Majeſty has likewiſe ordered us to acquaint you, that ſince the cloſe of the laſt ſeſſion he has concluded a treaty of defenſive alliance with his good brother the King of Pruſſia, copies of which will be laid before you: that his Majeſty's endeavours were employed, during the laſt ſummer, in conjunction with his allies, in order to prevent, as much as poſſible, the extenſion of hoſtilities in the North, and to manifeſt his deſire of effecting a general pacification: that no opportunity will be neglected, on his part, to promote this ſalutary object; and that he has, in the mean time, the ſatisfaction of receiving, from all foreign courts, continued aſſurances of their friendly diſpoſitions to this country.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

We are commanded by his Majeſty to acquaint you, that the eſtimates for the current year will forthwith be laid before you;

you; and that he is persuaded of your readiness to make the necessary provisions for the several branches of the public service

My Lords and Gentlemen,

We have it particularly in charge from his Majesty to assure you, that you cannot so effectually meet the most earnest wish of his Majesty's heart, as by persevering in your uniform exertions for the public welfare, and by improving every occasion to promote the prosperity of his faithful people, from whom his Majesty has received such repeated and affecting marks of invariable zeal, loyalty, and attachment, and whose happiness he must ever consider as inseparable from his own.

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, March 10, 1789.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach your throne, and return you our most humble thanks for the gracious speech which your Majesty has commanded to be made to both Houses of Parliament.

We most sincerely congratulate your Majesty on your happy recovery from your late indisposition; and upon your being again enabled to attend to the urgent concerns of your kingdoms, and to exercise personally your royal authority,

We acknowledge, with all possible thankfulness, the goodness of Almighty God in attending to the prayers of a loyal, affectionate, and afflicted people, and in restoring your Majesty to the wishes of your faithful subjects; and we most earnestly hope that the blessing of your Majesty's just and benevolent government may long be continued to us.

We humbly offer to your Majesty our most sincere expressions of gratitude for your gracious acceptance of our best endeavours to prove our zealous and affectionate attachment to your person, and our anxious concern for the honour and interest of your crown, and the security and good government of your dominions.

Your Majesty may be assured that we will, without delay, apply ourselves to the consideration of the different objects of national concern which require our attention.

We most humbly thank your Majesty for the orders which you have been graciously pleased to give for laying before this House a copy of the treaty of defensive alliance which your Majesty has concluded with the King of Prussia,

We are fenfible that your Majefty's endeavours, in conjunction with your allies, to prevent as much as poffible the extenfion of hoftilities in the north of Europe, and to contribute to the reftoration of general tranquillity, are the natural refult of your Majefty's known wifdom and humanity; and we have a full reliance on the continuance of your exertions towards promoting fo falutary an object.

We hear with fatisfaction that your Majefty continues to receive from all foreign courts the ftrongeft affurances of their friendly difpofition towards this country.

We are confcious, Sire, that we enfure ourfelves the approbation of your Majefty, when we attend to the public welfare, and to the advancement of the profperity of your people, whofe zeal, loyalty, and attachment to your Majefty, are the natural and fpontaneous effects of their uniform experience of your Majefty's virtues, and of the conftant bleffings derived from your mild and aufpicious government.

His Majefty's moft gracious Anfwer.

My Lords,

THIS very dutiful and affectionate addrefs calls forth my warmeft thanks; the fentiments expreffed in it have fo univerfally prevailed among my loving fubjects, that they muft, if poffible, increafe my folicitude for the profperity and happinefs of this my native country.

Addrefs of the Houfe of Commons to his Majefty, Mar. 11, 1789.

Moft Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament affembled, beg leave to return your Majefty our humble thanks for the fpeech which has been delivered by your Majefty's command to both Houfes of Parliament; and to congratulate your Majefty on the happy event of your Majefty's recovery from your late indifpofition, and on your being enabled to attend to the public affairs of your kingdoms.

We acknowledge with the moft heart-felt joy and gratitude, the goodnefs of Almighty God, in reftoring your Majefty to the wifhes and prayers of your faithful fubjects; and earneftly hope that your Majefty may long continue to rule over an affectionate and grateful people.

Permit

Permit us to lay before your Majesty our dutiful acknowledgments for the favourable sense which your Majesty entertains of our affectionate attachment to your Majesty's person, and of our concern for the honour and interest of your crown, and the security and good government of your dominions.

It will be our constant endeavour to merit your Majesty's good opinion, by labouring to promote the happiness of your people; and we will apply ourselves, with as little delay as possible, to the different objects of national concern which require our attention.

We beseech your Majesty to accept our humble thanks for being graciously pleased to order a copy of the treaty of defensive alliance between your Majesty and the King of Prussia to be laid before us, and to be assured that we are deeply sensible of your Majesty's just regard to the interests of your subjects, and the peace of Europe, in your endeavours to prevent the extension of hostilities in the north, and your desire to effect a general pacification. We learn with great satisfaction that your Majesty continues to receive assurances of the favourable disposition of the other courts of Europe towards this country.

We shall not fail to proceed with cheerfulness and dispatch to make the necessary provision for the several branches of the public service.

We should be wanting to ourselves and to those whom we represent, if we did not testify, in the warmest manner, the gratitude with which we observe the paternal expressions of your Majesty's regard for the happiness of your people, whose invariable sentiments of zeal, loyalty, and attachment to your Majesty are animated and confirmed by the uniform experience of your Majesty's virtues, and by the sense of the blessings which they enjoy under your Majesty's auspicious government.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you most cordially for this loyal and dutiful address.

Your warm expressions of congratulation, and the signal proofs which I have repeatedly received of the sincere and affectionate attachment of my faithful Commons, and of the nation at large, have made an impression on my mind which no time will ever efface.

On the 8th of April, 1789, both Houses of Parliament were acquainted,

THAT his Majesty had appointed Thursday, the 23d of this instant April, to be observed as a day of public thanksgiving to Almighty God, for that signal interposition of his good Providence, which had removed from his Majesty the late illness with which he had been afflicted; and, for the greater solemnity of that day, his Majesty would go to St. Paul's to return thanks to Almighty God for the great mercy which had been extended to him. And motions were made and carried in both Houses, to attend his Majesty to St. Paul's on the 23d instant, being the day appointed for a general thanksgiving.

House of Commons, June 5, 1789.

MR. Chancellor of the Exchequer acquainted the House, that his Majesty having taken notice that the seat in Parliament of the Right Hon. William Wyndham Grenville, late Speaker of this House, was become vacant by his acceptance of the office of one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, had commanded him to say, that in order that there may be no delay in public business, his Majesty gives leave to this House to proceed to the choice of a new Speaker; and that it is his Majesty's pleasure that this House should present their Speaker on Tuesday next, at two of the clock in the afternoon, in the House of Peers, for his royal approbation.

On Tuesday, June 9th, the Right Hon. Henry Addington, the new Speaker of the House of Commons, acquainted the House that they had attended his Majesty in the House of Peers, where his Majesty had been pleased to approve the choice they had made of him to be their Speaker.

Speech of the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's Command, on closing the Session of Parliament, August 11, 1789.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

WE have it in command from his Majesty to express to you the satisfaction with which his Majesty has observed the continued proofs which you have given during the present session, of your uniform attention to the public business, and of your zealous concern for the honour and interests of his crown, and the welfare and prosperity of his people.

Gen-

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

His Majeſty has particularly directed us to return you his thanks for the readineſs with which you have granted the neceſſary ſupplies for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Although the good offices of his Majeſty and his allies have not hitherto been effectual for reſtoring the general tranquillity of Europe, he has the ſatisfaction of ſeeing that the further extenſion of hoſtilities has been prevented, and that the ſituation of affairs continues to promiſe to this country the uninterrupted enjoyment of the bleſſings of peace.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurſday, the 29th day of October next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurſday, the 29th day of October next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, Jan. 21, 1790.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

SINCE I laſt met you in Parliament, the continuance of the war on the continent, and the internal condition of different parts of Europe, have been productive of events which have engaged my moſt ſerious attention.

While I ſee with a juſt concern the interruption of the tranquillity of other countries, I have at the ſame time great ſatiſfaction in being able to acquaint you that I receive continued aſſurances of the good diſpoſition of all foreign powers towards theſe kingdoms; and I am perſuaded that you will entertain with me a deep and grateful ſenſe of the favour of Providence, in continuing to my ſubjects the increaſing advantages of peace, and the uninterrupted enjoyment of thoſe invaluable bleſſings which they have ſo long derived from our excellent conſtitution.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have given directions that the eſtimates for the preſent year ſhould be laid before you, and I rely on your readineſs to grant ſuch ſupplies as the circumſtances of the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice may require.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The regulations prescribed by the act of the last session of Parliament, relative to the corn trade, not having been carried into effect in several parts of the kingdom, there appeared reason to apprehend that such an exportation of corn might take place, and such difficulty occur in the importation of foreign corn, as would have been productive of the most serious inconvenience to my subjects. Under these circumstances it appeared indispensably necessary to take immediate measures for preventing the exportation, and facilitating the importation of certain sorts of corn; and I therefore, by the advice of my privy council, issued an order for that purpose, a copy of which I have directed to be laid before you.

I have only further to desire that you will continue to apply yourselves to those objects which may require your attention, with the same zeal for the public service which has hitherto appeared in all your proceedings, and of which the effects have been so happily manifested in the increase of the public revenue, the extension of the commerce and manufactures of the country, and the general prosperity of my people.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Jan. 22, 1790.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We are sensible of the importance of the events produced by the continuance of the war on the continent, and the internal situation of different parts of Europe, which have naturally attracted your Majesty's most serious attention.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that while we see with a just concern the interruption of the tranquillity of other countries, we feel the truest satisfaction from the assurances your Majesty has been graciously pleased to give us of the good disposition manifested by all foreign powers towards these kingdoms; and that we entertain with your Majesty a deep and grateful sense of the favour of Providence, in continuing to these kingdoms the increasing advantages of peace, and the uninterrupted enjoyment of those invaluable blessings which your Majesty's most faithful subjects have so long derived from our excellent constitution.

We

We return your Majesty our dutiful thanks for the communication which your Majesty has been pleased to make to us of the reasons which induced your Majesty to take such immediate measures as appeared indispensably necessary for preventing the exportation and facilitating the importation of corn; and for your Majesty's gracious condescension in directing to be laid before this House a copy of the order which your Majesty, by the advice of your privy council, thought proper to issue for that purpose.

Permit us, Sir, to offer your Majesty our humble acknowledgments for the gracious approbation which your Majesty is pleased to declare of our former conduct, and to give your Majesty the strongest assurances, that, animated by the same zeal for the public service which has hitherto directed our proceedings, and gratefully acknowledging the happiness and security which we experience under your Majesty's auspicious government, we will diligently continue to apply ourselves to those objects which may require our attention, and may best contribute to the maintenance of the public revenue, the extension of the commerce and manufactures of the country, and the general prosperity of these kingdoms.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I RECEIVE with great pleasure your dutiful and loyal address.

The first object of my wishes being the prosperity of my people, I cannot but express my satisfaction at receiving such strong assurances of your disposition to apply your attention to those important objects which I have recommended to your consideration.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Jan. 23, 1790.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

While we participate in the just concern with which your Majesty observes the interruption of the tranquillity of other countries, we feel, at the same time, the greatest satisfaction in being informed that your Majesty continues to receive assurances

ſurances of the friendly diſpoſition of foreign powers: and we entertain a deep and grateful ſenſe of the favour of Providence towards theſe kingdoms, in continuing to us the increaſing advantages of peace, and the uninterrupted enjoyment of thoſe invaluable bleſſings which we have ſo long derived from our excellent conſtitution, and which we ſo happily experience under your Majeſty's mild and auſpicious government.

Your Majeſty may be aſſured that we ſhall proceed with cheerfulneſs to make ſuch proviſion as may appear to be requiſite for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice.

We are duly ſenſible of your Majeſty's paternal regard for the welfare of your people, which has been manifeſted in your anxiety to prevent the farther exportation of corn, and to facilitate the importation under the circumſtances which your Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to communicate to us; and we deſire humbly to return our thanks to your Majeſty for having been pleaſed to direct a copy of the order, iſſued by your Majeſty, by the advice of your privy council, to be laid before us.

We aſſure your Majeſty, that we ſhall uniformly continue to apply ourſelves, with unremitting aſſiduity and zeal, to thoſe objects of public concern which may require our attention, and ſhall be, at all times, deſirous of adopting every proper meaſure for maintaining the public revenue, and encouraging the commerce and manufactures of the country, as being eſſentially connected with the general proſperity of your Majeſty's dominions.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for your very loyal and dutiful addreſs; it is with great ſatisfaction that I receive the repeated expreſſions of your affectionate attachment, and the aſſurances of your continued attention to thoſe objects which are connected with the happineſs and proſperity of my people.

Meſſage

Message from his Majesty to both Houses of Parliament, May 5, 1790.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty has received information, that two vessels belonging to his Majesty's subjects, and navigated under the British flag, and two others, of which the description is not hitherto sufficiently ascertained, have been captured at Nootka Sound, on the north-western coast of America, by an officer commanding two Spanish ships of war; that the cargoes of the British vessels have been seized, and that their officers and crews have been sent as prisoners to a Spanish port.

The capture of one of these vessels had before been notified by the ambassador of the Catholic King, by order of his court, who, at the same time, desired that measures might be taken for preventing his Majesty's subjects from frequenting those coasts, which were alledged to have been previously occupied and frequented by the subjects of Spain: complaints were also made of the fisheries carried on by his Majesty's subjects, in the seas adjoining to the Spanish continent, as being contrary to the rights of the crown of Spain. In consequence of this communication, a demand was immediately made, by his Majesty's order, for adequate satisfaction, and for the restitution of the vessel, previous to any other discussion.

By the answer from the Court of Spain it appears, that this vessel and her crew had been set at liberty by the viceroy of Mexico, but this is represented to have been done by him on the supposition that nothing but the ignorance of the rights of Spain encouraged the individuals of other nations to come to those coasts for the purpose of making establishments or carrying on trade, and in conformity to his previous instructions, requiring him to shew all possible regard to the British nation.

No satisfaction is made or offered, and a direct claim is asserted by the Court of Spain to the exclusive rights of sovereignty, navigation, and commerce, in the territories, coasts, and seas, in that part of the world.

His Majesty has now directed his minister at Madrid to make a fresh representation on this subject, and to claim such full and adequate satisfaction as the nature of the case evidently requires; and, under these circumstances, his Majesty having also received information that considerable armaments are carrying on in the ports of Spain, has judged it indispensably necessary to give orders for making such preparations as may put it in his Majesty's power to act with vigour and effect in

in support of the honour of his crown, and the interests of his people. And his Majesty recommends it to his faithful Commons, on whose zeal and public spirit he has the most perfect reliance, to enable him to take such measures, and to make such augmentations of his forces as may be eventually necessary for this purpose.

It is his Majesty's earnest wish that the justice of his Majesty's demands may ensure, from the wisdom and equity of his Catholic Majesty, the satisfaction which is so unquestionably due; and that this affair may be terminated in such a manner as to prevent any grounds of misunderstanding in future, and to continue and confirm that harmony and friendship which has so happily subsisted between the two courts, and which his Majesty will always endeavour to maintain and improve by all such means as are consistent with the dignity of his Majesty's crown, and the essential interests of his subjects.

G. R.

Resolved by the House of Lords, May 5, 1790,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, thanking him for his gracious message, acquainting this House of those circumstances relative to the capture of British vessels on the north-western coast of America, and to the conduct of the Court of Spain, on this occasion, which have induced his Majesty to give orders for making such preparations as may put it in his Majesty's power to act with vigour and effect in support of the honour of his Majesty's crown and of the interests of his people, and to assure his Majesty that we shall readily proceed to enable his Majesty to take such measures, and to make such augmentation of his Majesty's forces, as may eventually be necessary on this occasion.

That we trust that the justice of his Majesty's demands will ensure, from the wisdom and equity of his Catholic Majesty, the satisfaction which is so unquestionably due to his Majesty; and that we shall sincerely rejoice in such a termination of the discussions now depending, as may prevent any grounds of misunderstanding in future, and may continue and confirm that harmony and friendship which has happily subsisted between Great Britain and Spain; but that we, at the same time, feel it our indispensable duty to assure his Majesty of the determination of this House to afford his Majesty the most zealous and effectual support in such measures as may become requisite for maintaining the dignity of his Majesty's crown,

crown, and the effential interefts of his Majefty's dominions.

Refolved by the Houfe of Commons, May 6, 1790,

THAT an humble addrefs be prefented to his Majefty, to return his Majefty the thanks of this Houfe for his moft gracious meffage, acquainting this Houfe of thofe circumftances relative to the capture of Britifh veffels on the north-weftern coaft of America, and to the conduct of the Court of Spain on this occafion, which have induced his Majefty to give orders for making fuch preparations as may put it in his Majefty's power to act with vigour and effect, in fupport of the honour of his Majefty's crown and of the interefts of his people; and to affure his Majefty that we fhall readily proceed to enable his Majefty to take fuch meafures and to make fuch augmentation of his Majefty's forces as may eventually be neceffary on this occafion.

That we truft that the juftice of his Majefty's demands will enfure, from the wifdom and equity of his Catholic Majefty, the fatisfaction which is fo unqueftionably due to his Majefty; and that we fhall fincerely rejoice in fuch a termination of the difcuffions now depending, as may prevent any grounds of mifunderftanding in future, and may continue and confirm that harmony and friendfhip which has happily fubfifted between Great Britain and Spain; but that we, at the fame time, feel it our indifpenfable duty to affure his Majefty of the determination of his faithful Commons to afford his Majefty the moft zealous and effectual fupport in fuch meafures as may become requifite for maintaining the dignity of his Majefty's crown, and the effential interefts of his Majefty's dominions.

His Majefty's moft gracious Anfwer.

HIS Majefty receives, with great fatisfaction, the affurances of fupport from his faithful Commons, which muft tend to produce the moft falutary confequences in the prefent conjuncture.

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majesty, June 10, 1790.

Sire,

YOUR faithful Commons have now completed the supplies requisite for the service of the current year; they have manifested their loyalty and their attachment to your Majesty's person and government, by their uniform attention and diligent exertion in passing such bills as were most likely to conduce to the honour and dignity of your Majesty's crown, and have, in all their proceedings, shown the spirit of a great, a powerful, and a free people.

Your Majesty's Commons cannot but contemplate with peculiar satisfaction the growing produce of the revenue, the rapid progress of our manufactures, and the general increase of commerce and trade; circumstances affording the most flattering proofs of the prosperity of the country, in which they have no doubt of your Majesty's participating with them, and in the satisfaction that must arise by the contemplation of such objects.

Your Majesty's Commons are well aware that the principal cause, among many others, to which these great national benefits are to be ascribed, is the continuance of peace; but, sensible as they are of these blessings, and anxiously desirous of rendering them permanent, they have, by an unanimous vote, lately afforded your Majesty a substantial proof that peace ought not to be maintained but on such terms as shall be strictly consistent with the honour of your Majesty's crown, and the interests and welfare of your Majesty's subjects.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 10, 1790.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE necessary public business being now concluded, I think it right to put an end to this session of Parliament.

I have not hitherto received the answer of the Court of Spain to the representation which I have directed to be made at that court, in support of the dignity of my crown, and of the interests of my people. I continue to entertain the strongest desire for the maintenance of peace on just and honourable grounds; but under the present circumstances, I feel it indispensably necessary to proceed with expedition and vigour

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in those preparations, the objects of which have already received your unanimous concurrence.

The assurances and conduct of my allies on this interesting occasion have manifested, in the most satisfactory manner, their determination to fulfil the engagements of the existing treaties; and I trust that our mutual good understanding and concert will be productive of the happiest effects in the present conjuncture of affairs in Europe.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my particular thanks for the readiness with which you granted the supplies for the current service, and for your unanimity and dispatch in enabling me to take those measures which the present crisis has rendered necessary.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

As I think it may be of material convenience that the election of a new Parliament should take place without delay, it is my intention forthwith to give directions for dissolving the present and for calling a new Parliament. But in signifying to you this intention, I cannot omit to assure you of the deep and grateful sense which I must ever entertain of that affectionate and unshaken loyalty, that uniform and zealous regard for the true principles of our invaluable constitution, and that unremitting attention to the happiness and prosperity of my people, which have invariably directed all your proceedings.

The rapid increase of our manufactures, commerce, and navigation, the additional protection and security afforded to the distant possessions of the empire, the provisions for the good government of India, the improvement of the public revenue, and the establishment of a permanent system for the gradual reduction of the national debt, have furnished the best proofs of your resolution in encountering the difficulties with which you had to contend, and of your steadiness and perseverance in those measures which were best adapted to promote the essential and lasting interests of my dominions.

The loyalty and public spirit, the industry and enterprize of my subjects, have seconded your exertions. On their sense of the advantages which they at present experience, as well as on their uniform and affectionate attachment to my person and government, I rely for a continuance of that harmony and confidence, the happy effects of which have so manifestly appeared during the present Parliament, and which must at all times afford the surest means of meeting the exigencies of war, or of cultivating, with increasing benefit, the blessings of peace.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the 3d day of August next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the 3d day of August next.

Speech of the Lord Chancellor to the House of Commons, Nov. 25, 1790.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HIS Majesty has been pleased to command me to acquaint you, that he will defer declaring the causes of calling this Parliament until there shall be a Speaker of the House of Commons: and, therefore, it is his Majesty's pleasure that you,

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

Do immediately repair to the place where the Commons usually sit, and there choose a fit person to be your Speaker; and that you present such person who shall be so chosen to his Majesty here, for his royal approbation, to-morrow, at two o'clock.

Nov. 26, 1790.

MR. Speaker (Addington) reported, that the House had been in the House of Peers, where his Majesty had been pleased to approve of the choice the House had made of him to be their Speaker.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Nov. 26, 1790.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is a great satisfaction to me to inform you, that the differences which had arisen between me and the Court of Spain have happily been brought to an amicable termination.

I have ordered copies of the declarations exchanged between my ambassador and the minister of the Catholic King, and of the Convention which has since been concluded, to be laid before you.

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The objects which I have propofed to myfelf in the whole of this tranfaction have been to obtain a fuitable reparation for the act of violence committed at Nootka, and to remove the grounds of fimilar difputes in future, as well as to fecure to my fubjects the exercife of their navigation, commerce, and fifheries, in thofe parts of the world which were the fubject of difcuffion.

The zeal and public fpirit manifefted by all ranks of my fubjects, and the difpofition and conduct of my allies, had left me no room to doubt of the moft vigorous and effectual fupport; but no event could have afforded me fo much fatisfaction as the attainment of the objects which I had in view, without any actual interruption of the bleffings of peace.

Since the laft feffion of Parliament, a foundation has been laid for a pacification between Auftria and the Porte, and I am now employing my mediation, in conjunction with my allies, for the purpofe of negociating a definitive treaty between thofe powers, and of endeavouring to put an end to the diffenfions in the Netherlands, in which I am neceffarily concerned, from confiderations of national intereft, as well as from the engagements of treaties.

A feparate peace has taken place between Ruffia and Sweden; but the war between the former of thofe powers and the Porte ftill continues. The principles upon which I have hitherto acted will make me always defirous of employing the weight and influence of this country in contributing to the reftoration of general tranquillity.

Gentlemen of the Houfe of Commons,

I have ordered the accounts of the expences of the late armaments, and the eftimates for the enfuing year, to be laid before you.

Painful as it is to me at all times to fee any increafe of the public burdens, I am perfuaded you will agree with me in thinking that the extent of our preparations was dictated by a due regard to the exifting circumftances; and that you will reflect with pleafure on fo ftriking a proof of the advantages derived from the liberal fupplies granted fince the laft peace, for the naval fervice. I rely on your zeal and public fpirit to make due provifion for defraying the charges incurred by this armament, and for fupporting the feveral branches of the public fervice on fuch a footing as the general fituation of affairs may appear to require. You will at the fame time, I am perfuaded, fhew your determination invariably to perfevere in that fyftem which has fo effectually confirmed and maintained the public credit of the nation.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

You will have obferved with concern the interruption which has taken place in the tranquillity of our Indian poffeffions, in confequence of the unprovoked attack on an ally of the Britifh nation. The refpectable ftate, however, of the forces under the direction of the government there, and the confidence of the Britifh name, which the fyftem prefcribed by Parliament has eftablifhed amongft the native powers of India, afford the moft favourable profpect of bringing the conteft to a fpeedy and fuccefsful conclufion.

I think it neceffary particularly to call your attention to the ftate of the province of Quebec, and to recommend it to you to confider of fuch regulations for its government as the prefent circumftances and condition of the province may appear to require.

I am fatisfied that I fhall on every occafion receive the fulleft proofs of your zealous and affectionate attachment, which cannot but afford me the higheft fatisfaction, after fo recent an inftance of collecting the immediate fenfe of my people.

You may be affured that I defire nothing fo much on my part as to cultivate an entire harmony and confidence between me and my Parliament, for the purpofe of preferving and tranfmitting to pofterity the invaluable bleffings of our free and excellent conftitution; and of concurring with you in every meafure which can maintain the advantages of our prefent fituation, and promote and augment the profperity and happinefs of my faithful fubjects.

Addrefs by the Houfe of Lords to his Majefty, Dec. 1, 1790.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Lords fpiritual and temporal, in Parliament affembled, beg leave to return your Majefty our humble thanks for your moft gracious fpeech from the throne.

Permit us, Sir, to condole with your Majefty on the lofs your Majefty and your royal family have fuftained, by the death of his late Royal Highnefs the Duke of Cumberland, whofe many amiable qualities, as they had endeared him to the nation, cannot but excite univerfal regret for his untimely lofs.

It is with the fincereft joy that we receive from your Majefty the information of the differences which had fubfifted between your Majefty and the Court of Spain, have been happily brought

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to an amicable termination; and at the same time that we offer our hearty congratulations on so happy and important an event, we beg leave to return your Majesty our thanks, for having been graciously pleased to order copies of the declarations exchanged between your Majesty's ambassador and the minister of the Catholic King, and of the convention which has since been concluded, to be laid before us.

We acknowledge, with the highest gratitude your Majesty's paternal care for the national honour, and for the interests of your people, manifested by your Majesty, in having, in the whole of this transaction, made it your object to obtain a suitable reparation for the act of violence committed at Nootka, and to remove the grounds of similar disputes in future, as well as to secure to your Majesty's subjects the exercise of their navigation, commerce, and fisheries, in those parts of the world which were the subject of discussion.

We are truly sensible of the approbation your Majesty is graciously pleased to express of the zeal and public spirit manifested by all ranks of your Majesty's subjects; and we learn with sincere pleasure that the disposition and conduct of your Majesty's allies had left your Majesty no room to doubt of the most vigorous and effectual support: but we most heartily unite with your Majesty in declaring, that nothing could afford us so much satisfaction as the attainment of the objects which your Majesty had in view, without any actual interruptions of the blessings of peace.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty of the sincere pleasure we feel in learning that a foundation has been laid for a pacification between Austria and the Porte, and that your Majesty is now employing your mediation, in conjunction with your allies, for the purpose of negociating a definitive treaty between those powers, and of endeavouring to put an end to the dissensions in the Netherlands, in whose situation your Majesty in your great goodness has been pleased to declare you are necessarily concerned, from considerations of national interest, as well as from the engagements of treaties; and we beg leave to assure your Majesty of our hearty concurrence in the benevolent principles on which your Majesty has hitherto acted, and in such measures as your Majesty, in your wisdom, shall think proper to pursue for employing the weight and influence of this country in contributing to the restoration of general tranquillity.

Convinced as we are that the extent of the late preparations was dictated by a due regard to the existing circumstances, we reflect with the highest pleasure on so striking a proof of the ad-

vantages derived from the liberal supplies granted since the last peace, for the naval service; and we beg leave to assure your Majesty of our utmost readiness to concur in making due provision for defraying the charges incurred by this armament, and for supporting the several branches of the public service, on such a footing as the general situation of affairs may appear to require, as well for the invariable adherence to that system which has so effectually confirmed and maintained the public credit of the nation.

The interruption which has taken place in the tranquillity of our Indian possessions, in consequence of the unprovoked attack on an ally of the British nation, has afforded us much concern; we reflect, however, with sincere satisfaction, on the respectable state of the British force under the direction of the government there, and on the confidence in the British name, which the system prescribed by Parliament has established among the native powers in India, as affording the most favourable prospect of bringing the contest to a speedy and successful conclusion.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we shall bestow the most particular attention to the state of the province of Quebec; and to the consideration of such regulations for its government as the present circumstances and condition of the province may appear to require.

Conscious as we are of the inestimable blessings we enjoy under your Majesty's mild and auspicious government, we beg leave with grateful hearts to assure your Majesty of our most zealous and affectionate attachment, and of our firm reliance on your Majesty's most gracious assurances of your desire to cultivate an entire harmony and confidence between yourself and your Parliament, in which we shall ever most cordially unite, for the purpose of preserving and transmitting to posterity the invaluable blessings of our free and excellent constitution, and of concurring with your Majesty in every measure which can maintain the advantages of our present situation, can promote and augment the prosperity and happiness of your Majesty's subjects, or can evince the just and grateful sense we entertain of your Majesty's paternal regard and watchful care for the rights, interests, and welfare of your faithful people.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my thanks for this dutiful and loyal address. Your condolence on the loss I have sustained, by the death of my late brother, the Duke of Cumberland, is an additional proof of your attachment to my person and family.

Your congratulations on the amicable termination of the differences which had subsisted between me and the Court of Spain, are extremely acceptable to me; and your concurrence with my wishes to cultivate the utmost harmony between me and my Parliament, is an additional satisfaction to me, as affording the best grounded hopes of preserving inviolate our excellent constitution, and of course contributing essentially to the general prosperity of my subjects.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, Nov. 30, 1790.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble and hearty thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We cannot omit taking the first opportunity to offer to your Majesty their sincere condolence on the loss which your Majesty has sustained by the untimely death of your royal brother, the late Duke of Cumberland.

It affords us the greatest satisfaction that the differences which had arisen between your Majesty and the Court of Spain, have happily been brought to an amicable termination; and we are grateful for your Majesty's goodness in having ordered copies of the declaration exchanged between your Majesty's ambassador and the minister of the Catholic King, and of the convention which has since been concluded, to be laid before us.

Nothing can more evince your Majesty's moderation, wisdom, and justice, than your having been pleased to direct your attention, in the whole of this transaction, to the objects of obtaining a suitable reparation for the act of violence committed at Nootka, and of removing the grounds of similar disputes in future, as well as of securing to your subjects the exercise of their navigation, commerce, and fisheries, in those parts of the world which were the subject of the discussion.

It gives us the greatest pleasure to be informed, that the disposition and conduct of your Majesty's allies concurred with the zeal and public spirit so naturally manifested by all ranks of your subjects, in ensuring to your Majesty the most vigorous and effectual support: we are, at the same time, fully sensible that no event could have been so satisfactory as the attainment of the objects which your Majesty had in view, without any actual interruption of the blessings of peace.

We are happy to learn, that a foundation has been laid for a pacification between Austria and the Porte, and that your Majesty has employed your mediation, in conjunction with your allies, for the purpose of negociating a definitive treaty between those powers, and of endeavouring to put an end to the dissentions in the Netherlands; and we shall, at all times, rejoice in seeing the weight and influence of this country directed to the wise and benevolent object of contributing to the restoration of general tranquillity.

Your faithful Commons are deeply sensible of your Majesty's paternal goodness to your people, which leads your Majesty to regret any occasion of increasing the public burdens: we are fully aware of the policy and prudence of vigorous preparations, under the circumstances which lately existed, and we cannot but reflect, with great satisfaction, on the striking proof which has been given of the advantages derived from the liberal supplies granted, since the last peace, for the naval service.

Your Majesty may be assured of our readiness to make due provision for defraying the expences of the late armament, and for supporting the several branches of the public service, on such a footing as the general situation of affairs may appear to require; and of our being, at the same time, peculiarly desirous of shewing, in the strongest manner, our determination invariably to persevere in that system which has so effectually confirmed and maintained the public credit of the nation.

We have observed, with concern, the interruption which has taken place in the tranquillity of our Indian possessions; but that it affords us great satisfaction to be informed that your Majesty sees so favourable a prospect of bringing the contest to a speedy and successful conclusion.

Our particular attention shall be directed to the state of the province of Quebec; and we shall carefully consider of such regulations for its government as the present circumstances and condition of the province may render expedient.

We should not faithfully represent the sentiments of a loyal and grateful people, if we were not to seek every opportunity of affording your Majesty the most convincing proofs of our

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zealous and affectionate attachment. If any consideration could increase the warmth of those sentiments, it would be derived from your Majesty's gracious declaration of your desire to cultivate an entire harmony and confidence with your Parliament, for purposes which must endear still more your Majesty's name to the present age, and to posterity, as long as there remains a due sense of the invaluable blessings of our free and excellent constitution, and of the numerous and increasing advantages which your subjects enjoy under your Majesty's mild and auspicious government.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my warmest thanks for this very loyal address.

Nothing can afford me more satisfaction than the cordial assurances which you give me of your affectionate attachment to my person and government, and of your zealous regard for the principles of the constitution, and the interest and prosperity of my people.

Declaration and Counter Declaration, signed and exchanged at Madrid, July 24, 1790, by his Majesty's Ambassador, and the Minister of the King of Spain; laid before Parliament, by his Majesty's Command, Dec. 3, 1790.

DECLARATION.

HIS Britannic Majesty having complained of the capture of certain vessels belonging to his subjects in the port of Nootka, situated on the north-west coast of America, by an officer in the service of the King, the under-signed counsellor and principal secretary of state to his Majesty, being thereto duly authorised, declares, in the name and by the order of his said Majesty, that he is willing to give satisfaction to his Britannic Majesty for the injury of which he has complained, fully persuaded that his said Britannic Majesty would act in the same manner towards the King under similar circumstances; and his Majesty further engages to make full restitution of all the British vessels which were captured at Nootka, and to indemnify the parties interested in those vessels for the losses which they shall have sustained, as soon as the amount thereof shall have been ascertained.

It being underſtood that this declaration is not to preclude or prejudice the ulterior diſcuſſion of any right which his Majeſty may claim to form an excluſive eſtabliſhment at the port of Nootka.

In witneſs whereof I have ſigned this declaration, and ſealed it with the ſeal of my arms, at Madrid, the 24th of July, 1790.

Signed

(L. S.) LE COMTE DE FLORIDA BLANCA.

COUNTER-DECLARATION.

His Catholic Majeſty having declared that he was willing to give ſatisfaction for the injury done to the King, by the capture of certain veſſels belonging to his ſubjects in the bay of Nootka, and the Count de Florida Blanca having ſigned, in the name and by the order of his Catholic Majeſty, a declaration to this effect; and by which his ſaid Majeſty likewiſe engages to make full reſtitution of the veſſels ſo captured, and to indemnify the parties intereſted in thoſe veſſels for the loſſes they ſhall have ſuſtained; the under-ſigned ambaſſador-extraordinary and plenipotentiary of his Majeſty to the Catholic King, being thereto duly and expreſsly authoriſed, accepts the ſaid declaration in the name of the King; and declares that his Majeſty will conſider this declaration, together with the performance of the engagements contained therein, as a full and entire ſatisfaction for the injury of which his Majeſty has complained.

The underſigned declares, at the ſame time, that it is to be underſtood, that neither the ſaid declaration ſigned by Count Florida Blanca, nor the acceptance thereof by the underſigned, in the name of the King, is to preclude or prejudice, in any reſpect, the right which his Majeſty may claim to any eſtabliſhment which his ſubjects may have formed, or ſhall be deſirous of forming in future, at the ſaid bay of Nootka.

In witneſs whereof I have ſigned this counter-declaration, and ſealed it with the ſeal of my arms, at Madrid, the 24th of July, 1790.

Signed

(L. S.) ALLEYNE FITZ HERBERT.

Meſſage

Meſſage from his Majeſty to both Houſes, March 28, 1791.

GEORGE R. X.

HIS Majeſty thinks it neceſſary to acquaint this Houſe, that the endeavours which his Majeſty has uſed, in conjunction with his allies, to effect a pacification between Ruſſia and the Porte, have hitherto been unſucceſsful, and the conſequences which may ariſe from the further progreſs of the war being highly important to the intereſts of his Majeſty and his allies, and to thoſe of Europe in general, his Majeſty judges it requiſite, in order to add weight to his repreſentations, to make ſome further augmentation of his naval force; and his Majeſty relies on the zeal and affection of this Houſe, that they will be ready to make good ſuch additional expences as may be incurred by theſe preparations, for the purpoſe of ſupporting the intereſts of his Majeſty's kingdoms, and of contributing to the reſtoration of general tranquillity, on a ſure and laſting foundation. G. R.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Lords, March 29, 1791,

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, to return his Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe for his moſt gracious meſſage;

To expreſs our regret, that the endeavours which his Majeſty has uſed, in conjunction with his allies, to effect a pacification between Ruſſia and the Porte, have hitherto been unſucceſsful;

To aſſure his Majeſty, that this Houſe will be ready to grant the ſupplies which may be required to make ſuch farther addition to the naval force, as ſhall add weight to his repreſentations, for the purpoſe of ſupporting the intereſts of theſe kingdoms, and of contributing to the great and important objects of reſtoring the tranquillity of Europe, on a ſecure and laſting foundation.

Reſolved by the Houſe of Commons, March 29, 1791,

THAT an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, to re- [illegible] his Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe for his moſt gracious meſſage

To expreſs our regret that the endeavours which his Majeſty has uſed, in conjunction with his allies, to effect a pacification between Ruſſia and the Porte, have hitherto been unſucceſsful.

That

That nothing can more evince his Majesty's constant attention to the welfare of his subjects, and his concern for the general tranquillity, than his anxiety to contribute to the speedy termination of a war, from the farther progress of which his Majesty apprehends that consequences may arise highly important to the interests of his Majesty and his allies, and to those of Europe in general.

That as, under these circumstances, his Majesty judges it requisite, in order to add weight to his representations, to make some farther additions to his naval force, his faithful Commons think it their duty to assure his Majesty, that they shall be ready to make good the expences which may be incurred by these preparations, for the purpose of supporting the interests of these kingdoms, and of contributing to the great and important objects of restoring the tranquillity of Europe on a secure and lasting foundation.

Message from his Majesty to the House of Commons, May 18, 1791.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty finding that the additional charges incurred on account of the establishment of the younger branches of his royal family, cannot be defrayed out of the monies applicable to the purposes of his Majesty's civil government, is under the necessity of desiring the assistance of Parliament for this purpose; and his Majesty relies on the affection of his faithful Commons, that they will make such provision as the circumstances may appear to them to require.

G. R.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 10, 1791.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IN closing the present session of Parliament, I cannot omit expressing my satisfaction in that zeal for the public interests with which you have applied yourselves to the consideration of the different objects which I recommended to your attention.

The measures which have been adopted for defraying the extraordinary expences of the last year, in such a manner as not to make any permanent addition to the public burdens, and the provisions which have been made for the good government and prospe-

prosperity of my subjects in Canada, call for my particular acknowledgments.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my thanks for the readiness with which you have granted the supplies necessary for the public service, and for the proof of your affectionate attachment in enabling me to provide for a part of the charges of the younger branches of my family, out of the consolidated fund.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am not yet enabled to inform you of the result of the steps which I have taken with a view to the re-establishment of peace between Russia and the Porte: it is my earnest wish that this important object may be effectuated in such a manner as may contribute to the preservation and maintenance of the general tranquillity of Europe. I feel with the greatest satisfaction the confidence which you have reposed in me, and my constant endeavours will be directed to the pursuit of such measures as may appear to me best calculated to promote the interests and happiness of my people, which are inseparable from my own.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the sixteenth day of August next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the sixteenth day of August next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Jan. 31, 1792.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE many proofs which you have given of your affectionate attachment to my person and family, leave me no doubt of your participating in the satisfaction which I derive from the happy event of the marriage which has been celebrated between my son, the Duke of York, and the eldest daughter of my good brother and ally, the King of Prussia; and I am persuaded, that I may expect your cheerful concurrence in enabling me to make a suitable provision for their establishment.

Since I last met you in Parliament, a definitive treaty has been concluded under my mediation, and that of my allies, the King of Prussia and the States General of the United Provinces,

vinces, between the Emperor and the Ottoman Porte, on principles which appear the beſt calculated to prevent future diſputes between thoſe powers.

Our intervention has alſo been employed with a view to promote a pacification between the Empreſs of Ruſſia and the Porte; and conditions have been agreed upon between us and the former of thoſe powers, which we undertook to recommend to the Porte, as the re-eſtabliſhment of peace, on ſuch terms, as appeared to be, under all the exiſting circumſtances, a deſirable event for the ſeveral intereſts of Europe. I am in expectation of ſpeedily receiving the account of the concluſion of the definitive treaty of peace, preliminaries having been ſome time ſince agreed upon between thoſe powers.

I have directed copies of the definitive treaty between the Emperor and the Porte to be laid before you, as well as ſuch papers as are neceſſary to ſhew the terms of peace which have been under diſcuſſion, during the negotiation with the Court of Peterſburgh.

I regret that I am not yet enabled to inform you of the termination of the war in India; but the ſucceſs which has already attended the diſtinguiſhed bravery and exertion of the officers and troops under the able conduct of Lord Cornwallis, affords reaſonable ground to hope that the war may ſpeedily be brought to an honourable concluſion.

The friendly aſſurances which I receive from foreign powers, and the general ſtate of affairs in Europe, appear to promiſe to my ſubjects the continuance of their preſent tranquillity. Under theſe circumſtances, I am induced to think that ſome immediate reduction may ſafely be made in our naval and military eſtabliſhments, and my regard for the intereſts of my ſubjects renders me at all times deſirous of availing myſelf of every favourable opportunity to diminiſh the public expences.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I am perſuaded it will give you great ſatisfaction to learn, that the extraordinary expences incurred in the courſe of laſt year, have, in a great meaſure, been already defrayed by the grants of the ſeſſion. The ſtate of our reſources will, I truſt, be found more than ſufficient to provide for the remaining part of theſe expences, as well as for the current ſervice of the year, the eſtimates of which I have directed to be laid before you.

I entertain the pleaſing hope, that the reduction which may be found practicable in the eſtabliſhments, and the continued increaſe of the revenue, will enable you, after making due proviſion for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice, to enter

upon

upon a syſtem of gradually relieving my ſubjects from ſome part of the exiſting taxes, at the ſame time giving additional efficacy to the plan for the reduction of the national debt, on the ſucceſs of which our future eaſe and ſecurity eſſentially depend. With a view to this important object, let me alſo recommend it to you to turn your attention to the conſideration of ſuch meaſures as the ſtate of the funds and of public credit may render practicable and expedient, towards a reduction in the rate of intereſt of ſuch of the annuities which are now redeemable.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The continued and progreſſive improvement in the internal ſituation of the country, will, I am confident, animate you in the purſuit of every meaſure which may be conducive to the public intereſt. It muſt at the ſame time operate as the ſtrongeſt encouragement to a ſpirit of uſeful induſtry among all claſſes of my ſubjects; and above all, muſt confirm and increaſe their ſteady and zealous attachment to that conſtitution which we have found, by long experience, to unite the ineſtimable bleſſings of liberty and order, and to which, under the favour of Providence, all our other advantages are principally to be aſcribed.

Addreſs by the Houſe of Lords to his Majeſty, Jan. 31, 1792.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, in Parliament aſſembled, beg leave to return your Majeſty our humble thanks for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

Permit us to expreſs to your Majeſty, that deeply ſenſible of the many bleſſings which we enjoy under your Majeſty's auſpicious reign, we eagerly embrace the firſt opportunity to offer to your Majeſty our dutiful congratulations on the happy event of the marriage of his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York with the Princeſs Royal of Pruſſia; and we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty of the ſincere and heart-felt ſatiſfaction which we derive from every circumſtance that adds to your Majeſty's domeſtic happineſs, and affords us a freſh ſecurity for the continuance of the government of theſe kingdoms in your Majeſty's illuſtrious line. Strongly impreſſed with theſe ſentiments, we ſhall, with the greateſt cheerfulneſs, concur in the neceſſary meaſures for making a ſuitable proviſion for the eſtabliſhment of their Royal Highneſſes.

We

We feel great satisfaction in learning that the war between the Emperor and the Ottoman Porte has, under the mediation of your Majesty and your allies, been terminated by a definitive treaty, on such principles as appear to your Majesty the best calculated to prevent future disputes between those powers; and that a progress has been made towards a pacification between the Empress of Russia and the Porte.

We return your Majesty our sincere thanks for your condescension and goodness in the communication of a copy of the definitive treaty between Austria and the Porte, and of those papers respecting the negotiation with the Court of Petersburgh, which your Majesty has been graciously pleased to direct to be laid before us.

We join with your Majesty in regretting the continuance of the war in India; but we have seen with great satisfaction the success which has already attended the bravery and exertions of the officers and troops under the able conduct of Lord Cornwallis; and we trust the war will by their efforts speedily be brought to an honourable conclusion.

We learn with peculiar satisfaction that the friendly assurances which your Majesty receives from the foreign powers, and the general state of affairs in Europe, appear to your Majesty to promise a continuance of our present tranquillity; and we acknowledge your Majesty's paternal goodness manifested in your desire to embrace every opportunity for diminishing the public expence by such reduction of the establishment as may be found to be practicable and expedient.

Every circumstance in our present situation must lead us to reflect, with the deepest gratitude, on your Majesty's unremitting anxiety for the welfare of your people; and must confirm and strengthen in the minds of all your Majesty's subjects, our steady and zealous attachment to that constitution which we found by long experience to unite the inestimable blessings of liberty and order, and which we consider as being, under the favour of Providence, the principal source of all our present advantages.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very dutiful and loyal address. The expressions of your affection towards my person and family, and of your zealous attachment to that constitution from which we derive so many advantages, are peculiarly acceptable to me. And I receive with great pleasure your congratulations on the

the marriage of my ſon, the Duke of York, with the eldeſt daughter of my good brother and ally, the King of Pruſſia, and the aſſurances of your readineſs to concur in making a ſuitable proviſion for their eſtabliſhment.

Addreſs of the Houſe of Commons to his Majeſty, Feb. 1, 1792.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament aſſembled, humbly beg leave to return your Majeſty the thanks of this Houſe for your moſt gracious ſpeech from the throne.

We embrace the earlieſt opportunity to offer your Majeſty our cordial and dutiful congratulations upon the nuptials of his Royal Highneſs the Duke of York; and to expreſs the great ſatisfaction and joy of your faithful Commons on this happy occaſion, which may furniſh an additional ſecurity to the many bleſſings which this country has enjoyed under the mild and auſpicious government of your Majeſty, and your illuſtrious family.

Impreſſed with theſe ſentiments, we ſhall cheerfully proceed to make ſuch proviſion for the eſtabliſhment of their Royal Highneſſes the Duke and Ducheſs of York, as ſhall be ſuited to their rank and dignity.

We learn, with ſatisfaction, the progreſs which has been made towards the reſtoration of general tranquillity.

We acknowledge your Majeſty's condeſcenſion and goodneſs in communicating to us the reſult of the negotiations in which your Majeſty has been engaged with foreign powers; and in having been graciouſly pleaſed to order copies of the definitive treaty between Auſtria and the Porte to be laid before us; together with ſuch papers as are neceſſary to ſhew the terms of peace which have been under diſcuſſion, during the negotiation with the Court of Peterſburgh.

Although we cannot but regret that your Majeſty is not yet enabled to inform us of the termination of the war in India, we reflect, with juſt ſatisfaction, on the ſucceſs which has already attended the diſtinguiſhed bravery and exertions of the officers and troops under the able conduct of Lord Cornwallis; and we rejoice that your Majeſty ſees reaſonable ground to hope that the war may be ſpeedily brought to an honourable concluſion.

We are happy to learn that the friendly aſſurances which your Majeſty receives from foreign powers, and the general ſituation

of affairs, induce your Majesty to think that some immediate reduction may safely be made in our naval and military establishments; and we observe, with the warmest gratitude, your Majesty's parental regard for the interests of your subjects, manifested in your desire of availing yourself of any favourable opportunity to diminish the public expences.

It cannot but afford us great satisfaction to find that the extraordinary expences, incurred in the course of the last year, have been already defrayed, in a great measure, by the grants of the session; and we shall apply ourselves, without delay, to the consideration of the best means of providing for the remaining part of those expences, as well as for the current service of the year.

We shall proceed to the examination of the state of the public income and expenditure; and it will afford us the highest gratification if, on the result of such examination, we shall find ourselves enabled to enter on a system so consonant to our most earnest and anxious wishes, as that of gradually relieving your Majesty's faithful subjects from some parts of the existing taxes; at the same time giving additional efficacy to the plan for the reduction of the national debt, on the success of which we are fully sensible that our future ease and security most essentially depend.

With a view to this important object, we shall not fail to turn our attention to the consideration of such measures as the state of the funds, and of public credit, may render practicable and expedient towards a reduction in the rate of interest of any of the annuities which are now redeemable.

We beseech your Majesty to believe that we shall consider the continued and progressive improvement of the internal situation of the country, as an additional incentive to the faithful discharge of our duty, in the pursuit of every measure that can be conducive to the public interest.

We cordially join with your Majesty in a just expectation and reliance, that this happy circumstance must operate as the strongest encouragement to a spirit of useful industry, among all classes of your Majesty's subjects. And, above all, we rejoice to think that it must confirm and increase their steady and zealous attachment to the principles of that constitution, which has been found, by long experience, to unite the inestimable blessings of liberty and order; and which we shall ever consider it our first duty to preserve and maintain, as being the cause to which, under the favour of Providence, all our other advantages are principally to be ascribed.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this loyal and dutiful address.

Your cordial and affectionate congratulations on the marriage of my son, the Duke of York, with the Princess Royal of Prussia, and the assurances of your readiness to enable me to make a suitable provision for their establishment, cannot but afford me the warmest satisfaction.

I observe with peculiar pleasure the expressions of your regard to the interests of my subjects, which cannot be more fully manifested than by your constant and earnest desire to preserve, unimpaired, the innumerable blessings which they derive from our excellent constitution.

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majesty, April 5, 1792.

Most gracious Sovereign,

IT is my duty to tender to your Majesty two bills, in the name and on the behalf the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled.

In pursuance to your Majesty's recommendation, your Commons cheerfully proceeded to make a provision for the establishment of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York; and they trust that the bill, which they have passed for this purpose, will fully manifest their just sense of what is due to the rank and dignity of their Royal Highnesses, as well as the satisfaction they derive from an event which, whilst it promotes the comfort and happiness of your Majesty and your illustrious family, is also materially conducive to the interests and honour of your people.

Other objects, no less interesting to your Majesty's mind, constantly directed as it is to the welfare of your subjects, have also engaged the attention of your Commons. The prosperous and improving condition of the public revenue, and the reductions which have been found practicable in the naval and military establishments, afforded the means, of which your Commons thought it their duty to avail themselves, of making a large addition to the fund, to be applied in the course of the present year, to the reduction of the public debt: their conduct upon this, as upon other occasions, was governed by the conviction, that the efficiency and success of the plan which has been established by Parliament for this important purpose,

must essentially tend to the future ease and permanent security of these kingdoms. In the adoption of these measures, your Commons have felt peculiar satisfaction by finding themselves enabled, at the same time to give some immediate relief to your Majesty's subjects, whose firmness in sustaining the burdens rendered necessary by a due regard to the maintenance of public credit, and whose spirit of enterprize and useful industry have so effectually contributed to advance to the pre-eminence they have attained, the general interests and prosperity of the empire.

Your Commons, Sire, contemplate with just satisfaction the continued and progressive improvement in the internal situation of the country; to preserve, augment, and diffuse the blessings of which we are in possession, they consider as the most important of their duties; and actuated by this principle, which comprehends a zealous and firm attachment to the form of government under which we live, and a faithful and vigilant attention to the interests and happiness of all classes of their fellow subjects, they are persuaded that those measures, which are the result of it, cannot fail to receive your Majesty's most gracious approbation.

The bills which I have in my hand are severally intituled,

"An act to enable his Majesty to make provision for the "establishment of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and "Duchess of York and Albany, and also to settle an annuity "on her Royal Highness during the term of her natural life, "to commence from the decease of his said Royal Highness, in "case her said Royal Highness shall survive him.

"An act for granting to his Majesty the sum of four hun-"dred thousand pounds, to be issued and paid to the governor "and company of the Bank of England, to be by them placed "to the account of the commissioners for the reduction of the "national debt."

To which your Commons, with all humility, intreat your Majesty's royal assent.

His Majesty's Proclamation laid before Parliament, by his Majesty's Command, May 21, 1792.

BY THE KING.

A PROCLAMATION.

GEORGE REX.

WHEREAS divers wicked and seditious writings have been printed, published, and industriously dispersed, tending to excite tumult and disorder, by endeavouring to raise groundless jealousies and discontents in the minds of our faithful and loving subjects, respecting the laws and happy constitution of government, civil and religious, established in this kingdom, and endeavouring to vilify and bring into contempt the wise and wholesome provisions made at the time of the glorious Revolution, and since strengthened and confirmed by subsequent laws, for the preservation and security of the rights and liberties of our faithful and loving subjects: and whereas divers writings have also been printed, published, and industriously dispersed, recommending the said wicked and seditious publications to the attention of all our faithful and loving subjects: and whereas we have also reason to believe, that correspondences have been entered into with sundry persons in foreign parts, with a view to forward the criminal and wicked purposes above mentioned: and whereas the wealth, happiness, and prosperity of this kingdom do, under divine Providence, chiefly depend upon a due submission to the laws, a just confidence in the integrity and wisdom of Parliament, and a continuance of that zealous attachment to the government and constitution of the kingdom, which has ever prevailed in the minds of the people thereof: and whereas there is nothing which we so earnestly desire as to secure the public peace and prosperity, and to preserve to all our loving subjects the full enjoyment of their rights and liberties, both religious and civil: we therefore, being resolved, as far as in us lies, to repress the wicked and seditious practices aforesaid, and to deter all persons from following so pernicious an example, have thought fit, by the advice of our privy council, to issue this our royal proclamation, solemnly warning all our loving subjects, as they tender their own happiness, and that of their posterity, to guard against all such attempts which aim at the subversion of all regular government within this kingdom, and which are inconsistent with the peace and order of society; and earnestly exhorting them, at all times, and to the utmost of their power, to avoid and discourage all proceedings tending

to produce riots and tumults: and we do ftrictly charge and command all our magiftrates in and throughout our kingdom of Great Britain, that they do make diligent inquiry in order to difcover the authors and printers of fuch wicked and feditious writings as aforefaid, and all others who fhall difperfe the fame; and we do further charge and command all our fheriffs, juftices of the peace, chief magiftrates of our cities, boroughs, and corporations, and all other our officers and magiftrates throughout our kingdom of Great Britain, that they do, in their feveral and refpective ftations, take the moft immediate and effectual care to fupprefs and prevent all riots, tumults, and other diforders, which may be attempted to be raifed or made by any perfon or perfons; which, on whatever pretext they may be grounded, are not only contrary to law, but dangerous to the moft important interefts of this kingdom: and we do further require and command all and every our magiftrates aforefaid, that they do, from time to time, tranfmit to one of our principal fecretaries of ftate due and full information of fuch perfons as fhall be found offending as aforefaid, or in any degree aiding or abetting therein; it being our determination, for the prefervation of the peace and happinefs of our faithful and loving fubjects, to carry the laws vigoroufly into execution againft fuch offenders as aforefaid.

Given at our Court at the Queen's Houfe, the 21ft day of May, 1792, in the 32d year of our reign.

GOD fave the KING.

Joint Addrefs of both Houfes to his Majefty, June 2, 1792.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft loyal and dutiful fubjects, the Lords fpiritual and temporal, and Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament affembled, have taken into our moft ferious confideration your Majefty's royal proclamation, which has, by your Majefty's command, been laid before us: and we beg leave to teftify to your Majefty, our warm and grateful fenfe of this frefh proof of your Majefty's conftant folicitude for the welfare and happinefs of your people. We cannot fee without indignation the attempts which have been made to weaken in the minds of your Majefty's fubjects the fentiments of obedience to the laws, and of attachment to the form of government, civil and religious, fo happily eftablifhed within this realm. The advantages which, under the government of your Majefty and your illuftrious anceftors, have been derived

derived from legal and well-regulated freedom, and the unexampled blessings which we actually enjoy, afford to your Majesty's subjects peculiar motives to reflect with gratitude on their present situation, and to beware of those delusive theories which are inconsistent with the relations and duties of all civil society. And we deem it, under the present circumstances, the peculiar duty of every good citizen to discourage and counteract every attempt, direct and indirect, against public order and tranquillity. We are confident, that the sentiments which we now express to your Majesty are the general sentiments of the nation; they must feel with us, that real liberty can only exist under the protection of law, and the authority of efficient and regular government; and they have seen, by happy experience, that the mixed form of our legislature comprehends and provides for the various interests of the community through all its several descriptions, and maintains and preserves those gradations of property and condition which furnish the great incentives to useful industry, and are equally essential to the vigour and exertion of every part, and to the stability and welfare of the whole. They therefore know, that the collective strength and prosperity of the empire, its wealth, its credit, and its commerce, as well as the only security for the persons, the property, and the liberties of each individual, are essentially connected with the preservation of the established constitution.

Impressed with these opinions, we think it our duty to assure your Majesty of our firm determination to support your Majesty in the resolution which your Majesty has adopted; and we are fully persuaded, that every exertion which may be necessary will be seconded by the zeal and gratitude of a free and loyal people.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I THANK you very warmly for this loyal, dutiful, and seasonable address.

My utmost endeavours shall never be wanting to maintain among my people a just sense of the advantages of our present constitution, the source of legal and well-regulated freedom: and, at the same time, to secure to them, by a due exertion of the laws, a continuance of all the unexampled blessings which they now enjoy. It is the greatest satisfaction to me to reflect, that, in these endeavours, I shall receive the firm and united assistance of my Parliament; and I feel the same con-

viction and confidence which is expressed by you, that our exertions for this purpose will be seconded by the zeal and public spirit of my people, whose happiness forms the first object of all my wishes.

Speech of Mr. Speaker to his Majesty, June 15, 1792.

Most gracious Sovereign,

YOUR Majesty's faithful Commons, not content with having carried into effect a bill, the principle and tendency of which is highly interesting to public credit, and to the prosperity of the kingdom, have also made provision for preventing the future permanent increase of the national debt, by having resolved, that on all future loans means should be found for their discharge, which operation, it is the hope of the Commons, no necessity will ever prevent; as, by such provision, your Majesty's loyal subjects will be guarded from those difficulties in which they have been involved, and which could only be supported by that public spirit and patriotic zeal which pervaded all ranks of your Majesty's people. Other objects have also occupied the attention of the Commons, who have the satisfaction of releasing your Majesty's subjects from several of the burdens under which they have laboured. The Commons have also taken measures to promote the commerce, the manufactures, and the revenue of the empire. Your Majesty may be assured of the determination of your faithful Commons to maintain the happy constitution of the country, from which the people look for an increase of their blessings, and for the security and continuance of those of which they are actually possessed. Your Majesty's faithful Commons trust, that the giving to juries the right of deciding on all cases of libels will be highly advantageous, as it gives uniformity to the law, and security to the property, the lives, and liberties of your Majesty's subjects. Your Majesty's faithful Commons are sensible of the enjoyments arising from the present form of government, the preservation of which they are fully convinced is determined to be persevered in by a great and loyal people.

Mr. Speaker concluded by saying, he held in his hand the National Debt future Loan Bill, to which his Majesty's faithful Commons prayed his royal assent.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 15, 1792.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I CANNOT close the present session of Parliament without returning you my particular thanks for the attention and diligence with which you have applied yourselves to the dispatch of the public business, and especially to the important objects which I recommended to your consideration.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The readiness with which you have granted the necessary supplies, and the fresh proof which you have given of your constant affection for my person and family, in enabling me to provide for the establishment of my son, the Duke of York, call for my warmest acknowledgments. I have also observed, with the utmost satisfaction, the measures which you have adopted for the diminution of the public burdens; while you have, at the same time, made additional provision for the reduction of the present national debt, and established a permanent system for preventing the dangerous accumulation of debt in future.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have seen with great concern the commencement of hostilities in different parts of Europe. In the present situation of affairs, it will be my principal care to maintain that harmony and good understanding which subsist between me and the several belligerent powers, and to preserve to my people the uninterrupted blessings of peace. And the assurances which I receive from all quarters, of a friendly disposition towards this country, afford me the pleasing hope of succeeding in these endeavours.

The recent expressions of your uniform and zealous attachment to the established government and constitution, leave me no room to doubt, that you will, in your several counties, be active and vigilant to maintain those sentiments in the minds of my faithful people: and I have the happiness of receiving continued and additional proofs of their just sense of their numerous and increasing advantages which they now enjoy under the protection and distinguished favour of Providence.

Then

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Thursday, the 30th day of August next, to be then here holden, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thursday, the 30th day of August next.

Proclamation laid before Parliament by his Majesty's Command.

BY THE KING.

A PROCLAMATION.

GEORGE REX.

WHEREAS by an act, passed in the twenty sixth year of our reign, entitled, "An act for amending and reducing "into one act of Parliament the laws relating to the militia in "that part of Great Britain called England," it is enacted, That it shall be lawful for us, in the cases and in manner therein mentioned, the occasion being first declared in council, and notified by proclamation, if no Parliament shall be then sitting, to order and direct the drawing out and embodying of our militia forces, or any part thereof. And whereas we have received information, that in breach of the laws, and notwithstanding our royal proclamation of the 21st day of May last, the utmost industry is still employed by evil-disposed persons within this kingdom, acting in concert with persons in foreign parts, with a view to subvert the laws and established constitution of this realm, and to destroy all order and government therein; and that a spirit of tumult and disorder, thereby excited, has lately shewn itself in acts of riot and insurrection. And whereas, under the present circumstances, it is more particularly necessary, that for the immediate suppression of such attempts, some addition should be made, as the exigency of the case may require, to the force which may be in readiness to act for the support of the civil magistrate; we therefore, being determined to exert the powers vested in us by law for the protection of the persons, liberties, and properties of our faithful subjects, and fully relying on their zeal and attachment to our person and government, and to the happy constitution established in these kingdoms, have thought fit to declare in our council, our royal intention, for the causes and on the occasion aforesaid, to draw out and embody such part of our militia forces as may more immediately enable us to provide

for

for the said important objects. And we do hereby, in pursuance of the said recited act, notify to all our loving subjects our said intention, and the causes and occasions thereof.

Given at our Court at Windsor, the first day of December, 1792, and in the 33d year of our reign.

GOD save the KING.

Proclamation laid before Parliament by his Majesty's Command.

BY THE KING.

A PROCLAMATION.

GEORGE REX.

WHEREAS by an act passed in the twenty-sixth year of our reign, entitled, "An act for amending and reducing "into one act of Parliament the laws relating to the militia "in that part of Great Britain called England," it is enacted, That whenever we shall cause the militia to be drawn out and embodied, on the occasions and in the manner therein mentioned, if the Parliament shall then be separated by such adjournment or prorogation as will not expire within fourteen days; we may and shall issue our proclamation for the meeting of the Parliament within fourteen days; and the Parliament shall accordingly meet and sit upon such days as shall be appointed by such proclamation, and continue to sit and act in like manner, to all intents and purposes, as if it had stood adjourned or prorogued to the same day: and whereas we have thought fit, in pursuance of the said act, this day to declare in our council, certain causes and occasions moving us to order and direct, that such part of our militia forces, as may more immediately enable us to provide for the important objects therein mentioned, should be drawn out and embodied: and whereas, in pursuance of the said recited act, we have thought fit on this day to issue our royal proclamation, notifying the causes and occasions so declared in council as aforesaid: and whereas our Parliament now stands prorogued to Thursday, the third day of January next, we therefore, by the advice of our privy council, do hereby publish and declare our royal will and pleasure, that our said Parliament shall, on Thursday, the thirteenth day of this instant December, be held for the dispatch of divers weighty and important affairs. And the Lords spiritual and temporal, and the knights, citizens, and burgesses, and the commissioners for shires and burghs of the

House

House of Commons, are hereby required to give attendance at Westminster on the said thirteenth day of December.

Given at our Court at Windsor, the first day of December, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, and in the thirty-third year of our reign.

GOD save the KING.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, December 13, 1792.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HAVING judged it necessary to embody a part of the militia of this kingdom, I have, in pursuance of the provisions of the law, called you together within the time limited for that purpose: and it is, on every account, a great satisfaction to me to meet you in Parliament at this conjuncture.

I should have been happy if I could have announced to you the secure and undisturbed continuance of all the blessings which my subjects have derived from a state of tranquillity; but events have recently occurred, which require our united vigilance and exertion, in order to preserve the advantages which we have hitherto enjoyed.

The seditious practices which had been, in a great measure, checked by your firm and explicit declaration in the last session, and by the general concurrence of my people in the same sentiments, have of late been more openly renewed, and with increased activity. A spirit of tumult and disorder (the natural consequence of such practices) has shown itself in acts of riot and insurrection, which required the interposition of a military force in support of the civil magistrate. The industry employed to excite discontent on various pretexts, and in different parts of the kingdom, has appeared to proceed from a design to attempt the destruction of our happy constitution, and the subversion of all order and government; and this design has evidently been pursued in connection and concert with persons in foreign countries.

I have carefully observed a strict neutrality in the present war on the continent, and have uniformly abstained from any interference with respect to the internal affairs of France; but it is impossible for me to see, without the most serious uneasiness, the strong and increasing indications which have appeared there of an intention to excite disturbances in other countries—to disregard the rights of neutral nations—and to pursue views of conquest and aggrandizement; as well as to adopt towards my allies, the States General, (who have observed the same neutrality with myself) measures which are neither conformable

to the law of nations, nor to the poſitive ſtipulations of exiſting treaties. Under all theſe circumſtances I have felt it my indiſpenſable duty to have recourſe to thoſe means of prevention and internal defence with which I am entruſted by law; and I have alſo thought it right to take ſteps for making ſome augmentation of my naval and military force; being perſuaded that theſe exertions are neceſſary in the preſent ſtate of affairs, and are beſt calculated to maintain internal tranquillity, and to render a firm and temperate conduct effectual for preſerving the bleſſings of peace.

Nothing will be neglected on my part that can contribute to that important object, conſiſtent with the ſecurity of my kingdoms, and with the faithful performance of engagements which we are bound equally by intereſt and honour to fulfil.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the eſtimates for the enſuing year to be laid before you; and I have no doubt that you will be ready to make a due proviſion for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice.

You will certainly join with me in lamenting any neceſſity for extraordinary expences, which may for a time prevent the application of additional ſums beyond thoſe which are already annually appropriated to the reduction of the public debt, or retard the relief which my ſubjects might have derived from a further diminution of taxes; but I am confident you will feel that thoſe great ends will ultimately be beſt promoted by ſuch exertions as are neceſſary for our preſent and future ſafety and tranquillity; and it is a great conſolation to me to reflect, that you will find ample reſources for effectually defraying the expence of vigorous preparations, from the exceſs of the actual revenue beyond the ordinary expenditure.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have great pleaſure in acquainting you that the brilliant ſucceſſes of the Britiſh arms in India, under the able conduct of the Marquis Cornwallis, have led to the termination of the war by an advantageous and honourable peace; the terms of which are peculiarly ſatisfactory to me, from their tendency to ſecure the future tranquillity of the Britiſh dominions in that part of the world.

Your attention will now naturally be directed to the taking ſuch meaſures for the future government of thoſe valuable poſſeſſions, as ſhall appear, from experience and full conſideration, moſt likely to provide for their internal proſperity, and to ſecure the important advantages which may be derived from thence to the commerce and revenue of this country.

I am

I am persuaded that it will be the object of your immediate consideration to adopt such measures as may be necessary, under the present circumstances, for enforcing obedience to the laws, and for repressing every attempt to disturb the peace and tranquillity of these kingdoms.

You will be sensible how much depends on the result of your deliberations, and your uniform conduct is the best pledge, that nothing will be wanting on your part which can contribute to the present security and permanent advantage of the country.

I retain a deep and unalterable sense of the repeated proofs which I have received of your cordial and affectionate attachment to me; and I place an entire reliance on the continuance of those sentiments, as well as on your firm determination to defend and maintain that constitution which has so long protected the liberties and promoted the happiness of every class of my subjects.

In endeavouring to preserve and to transmit to posterity the inestimable blessings which, under the favour of Providence, you have yourselves experienced, you may be assured of my zealous and cordial co-operation; and your joint efforts will, I doubt not, be rendered completely effectual, by the decided support of a free and loyal people.

Address of the House of Lords to His Majesty, Dec. 13, 1792.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble and dutiful acknowledgments for your Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne.

Permit us to assure your Majesty, that, under circumstances which require the united vigilance and exertion of all the branches of the legislature, to preserve to your Majesty's subjects the continuance of those advantages which they have hitherto enjoyed; it is a great satisfaction to us, that your Majesty, by meeting us in Parliament at this conjuncture, has afforded us an opportunity of manifesting our loyalty to your Majesty, and our zeal for the dearest interests of our country.

We have seen, with the greatest concern, that the seditious practices which were the objects of your Majesty's late proclamation, and which were so strongly condemned by the declaration of both Houses of Parliament, and by the general sentiments of the people, have of late been more openly renewed, and with increased activity. We deeply lament that spirit of

tumult and diſorder, the natural conſequence of ſuch practices, which has ſhewn itſelf in different acts of riot and inſurrection, requiring the interpoſition of a military force in ſupport of the civil magiſtrate. We are ſenſible that the induſtry employed to excite diſcontent, on various pretexts, and in different parts of the kingdom, has proceeded from a ſettled deſign to attempt the deſtruction of our happy conſtitution, and the ſubverſion of all order and government; and we learn with the utmoſt indignation that this deſign has been purſued in connection and concert with perſons in foreign countries.

We highly applaud the wiſe and generous conduct adopted by your Majeſty in obſerving a ſtrict neutrality in the preſent war on the continent, and abſtaining from any interference with reſpect to the internal affairs of France: but we beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that we fully participate in that ſerious uneaſineſs ſo juſtly felt by your Majeſty on account of the ſtrong and increaſing indications which have appeared in France of an intention to excite diſturbances in other countries, to diſregard the rights of neutral nations, and to purſue views of conqueſt and aggrandizement, as well as to adopt towards your Majeſty's allies the States General, who have obſerved the ſame neutrality with your Majeſty, meaſures neither conformable to the law of nations, nor to the poſitive ſtipulations of exiſting treaties.

We acknowledge with the deepeſt gratitude your Majeſty's paternal care for the ſecurity and happineſs of your people, which has led your Majeſty, on the preſent occaſion, to have recourſe to thoſe means of prevention and internal defence with which your Majeſty is intruſted by law; and alſo to augment your Majeſty's naval and military force; and we concur with your Majeſty in the perſuaſion that theſe exertions are neceſſary in the preſent ſtate of affairs, and are beſt calculated both to maintain internal tranquillity, and to render a firm and temperate conduct effectual for preſerving the bleſſings of peace; an object which, however important in itſelf, is no otherwiſe deſirable than as it can be attained conſiſtently with the ſecurity of theſe kingdoms, and with the faithful performance of engagements which we are bound equally by intereſt and honour to fulfil.

We congratulate your Majeſty on the brilliant ſucceſſes of the Britiſh arms in India, under the able conduct of the Marquis Cornwallis, and more eſpecially on the termination of the war in that country by an advantageous and honourable peace, to the terms of which we look with peculiar ſatisfaction, from their tendency to ſecure the future tranquillity of the Britiſh dominions. We ſhall now apply our attention to the forming

forming such arrangements for the future government of those valuable possessions, as experience and deliberation may recommend to us, with a view to the prosperity of that country, and to the advantages which it may afford to the British commerce and revenue.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we feel it to be our bounden duty, that it shall be the object of our most immediate consideration, to adopt all proper measures for enforcing obedience to the laws, and for repressing every attempt to disturb the peace and tranquillity of this kingdom. We are not ignorant that on the result of our deliberations, at this moment, depend the present security and prosperity of our country. We well know that we can in no manner better provide for these important and interesting objects, than by manifesting in all our conduct that affectionate attachment which is so justly due to your Majesty from every one of your subjects, and which is deeply impressed upon our hearts; and by directing all our counsels to the defence and maintenance of the constitution, so dear to a people whose liberties it has long protected, and whose happiness it has essentially promoted. In endeavouring to preserve and transmit to our posterity these inestimable blessings, we know from uniform experience that we may be assured of your Majesty's co-operation and assistance; and we are confident that the united efforts of your Majesty and your Parliament, for this purpose, will be rendered completely effectual by the decided support of a free and loyal people.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful address. Your expressions of affectionate attachment to my person, and of zeal for the maintenance of the constitution, are peculiarly acceptable to me at this conjuncture; and I am satisfied, that, whatever may be the course of future events, the spirit and loyalty which you have manifested on this occasion will be productive of the happiest consequences to my people.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, Dec. 14, 1792.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our most humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

It would have afforded us the most sincere satisfaction if your Majesty could have announced to us the secure and undisturbed continuance of all the blessings which your Majesty's subjects have derived from a state of tranquillity; but we are fully sensible that events have recently occurred, which must require our united vigilance and exertion to preserve to this country the advantages which it has hitherto enjoyed.

It has been impossible for us not to perceive, from our own observation in different parts of the country, the increased activity with which seditious practices have of late been openly renewed; and we learn, with concern, that not only a spirit of tumult and disorder (the natural consequence of such practices) has shewn itself in acts of riot and insurrection, which required the interposition of a military force in support of the civil magistrate, but that the industry employed to excite discontent has appeared to proceed from a design to attempt, in concert with persons in foreign countries, the destruction of our happy constitution, and the subversion of all order and government.

We entertain a just sense of the temper and prudence which have induced your Majesty to observe a strict neutrality with respect to the war on the continent, and uniformly to abstain from any interference in the internal affairs of France; but, at the same time we cannot but participate in the just uneasiness with which your Majesty must observe any indications of an intention to excite disturbances in other countries, to disregard the rights of neutral nations, and to pursue views of conquest and aggrandizement, and particularly to adopt measures towards your Majesty's allies, the States General, inconsistent with the law of nations, and the positive stipulations of existing treaties.

The circumstances which your Majesty has been pleased to communicate to us, appear to have rendered it highly important for the safety and interest of this country, that your Majesty should have recourse to those measures of prevention and internal defence with which your Majesty is entrusted by law.

We sincerely hope that these exertions, and the steps which your Majesty has taken for augmenting your naval and military force, will have the happy tendency both to maintain internal

tranquillity, and to render a firm and temperate conduct effectual for preserving the blessings of peace.

Your Majesty may, at the same time, rely on our zealous concurrence in such measures as may prove to be necessary for the security of these kingdoms, and for the faithful performance of our engagements.

We shall proceed to make such provisions as shall be requisite for the several branches of the public service.

We must indeed see, with the deepest regret, any necessity for extraordinary expences, which may prevent the application of additional sums, beyond those already annually appropriated to the reduction of the public debt, or retard the farther relief which your Majesty's subjects might derive from a diminution of taxes: but we are fully aware that those great ends to which our views must anxiously be directed will themselves ultimately be best promoted by such vigorous and timely exertions as may be necessary for our present and future safety and tranquillity, and it will, undoubtedly, be a great consolation to us, to find that the excess of the actual revenue, beyond the ordinary expenditure, is such as to furnish ample resources for effectually defraying the expences of vigorous preparations, if the circumstances of the time should render such preparations requisite.

We beg leave to offer to your Majesty our cordial congratulations on the brilliant successes of the British arms in India, under the able conduct of the Marquis Cornwallis, and on the termination of the war in that country by an advantageous and honourable peace, which can, in no respect, be more satisfactory than in its tendency to secure the future tranquillity of the British dominions in that part of the world: we shall not fail to employ our utmost attention, with a view to taking such measures for the future government of those valuable possessions as shall appear, from experience and full consideration, most likely to provide for their internal prosperity, and to secure the important advantages which may be derived from thence to the commerce and revenue of this country.

Your Majesty may depend upon the zeal and readiness with which we shall enter on the consideration of any measures which may appear to be necessary, under the present circumstances, for enforcing obedience to the laws, and for repressing every attempt to disturb the peace and tranquillity of these kingdoms; and we beseech your Majesty to believe, that no endeavours will be wanting, on our part, which can contribute to the present security and permanent advantage of the country.

We shall, on every occasion, be anxious to manifest the continuance of our dutiful and affectionate attachment to your Majesty,

Majesty, as well as our firm determination to defend and maintain that constitution which has so long protected the liberties and promoted the happiness of every class of your Majesty's subjects; feeling it to be our first and most essential duty to preserve and transmit to posterity the inestimable blessings which, under the favour of Providence, we have ourselves experienced.

We receive, with the warmest emotions of gratitude, the gracious assurances of your Majesty's zealous and cordial cooperation; and we rely with confidence on the decided support of a free and loyal people.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my warmest thanks for this loyal and affectionate address, and I receive, with peculiar satisfaction, the assurances of your attachment to me, and of your determination zealously to concur in such measures as may be necessary for the security of these kingdoms, and for the faithful performance of our engagements.

Your public declaration of these sentiments cannot fail to produce the happiest effects in the present important conjuncture.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Dec. 20, 1792,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, humbly desiring his Majesty to direct, that there be laid before this House a copy, or extract, of the instructions sent to Earl Gower, his Majesty's ambassador to the most Christian King, signifying his Majesty's pleasure that he should quit Paris.

Copy of a Letter written to Earl Gower, English Ambassador at Paris, by Mr. Dundas, and delivered to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated Whitehall, the 17th of August, 1792, *and referred to in the above Resolution.*

My Lord,

IN Lord Grenville's absence, I have received and laid before the King your last dispatches.

His Majesty has been very deeply afflicted in receiving the information of the extent and the deplorable consequences of

the troubles which have happened in Paris, as well on account of his *personal attachment to their most Christian Majesties and the interest that he has always taken in their welfare* as for the earnest desire he has for the tranquillity and prosperity of a kingdom with which he is on terms of friendship.

As it appears, that in the present state of affairs, the exercise of the executive power has been withdrawn from his most Christian Majesty, the credentials which have hitherto been made use of by your excellency *can no longer be valid.* His Majesty is, therefore, of opinion, that you ought not to remain any longer in Paris, as well on this account, as because this step appears to him the most conformable to the principles of neutrality which he has hitherto observed. His Majesty's pleasure, therefore, is, that you should quit that city, and return to England, as soon as you shall have been able to procure the necessary passports for that purpose.

In all the conversations that you may have occasion to hold before your departure, you will take care to express yourself in a manner conformable to the sentiments herein communicated to you; and you will take especial care not to neglect any opportunity of declaring, that at the same time his Majesty means to observe the principles of neutrality in every thing which regards the arrangement of the internal government of France: he does not conceive that he *departs from these principles in manifesting, by every possible means in his power, his solicitude for the personal situation of their most Christian Majesties and the royal family.* He most earnestly hopes that his wishes in that respect will not be deceived; that the royal family will be preserved from every act of violence; *the commission of which would not fail to excite sentiments of universal indignation throughout all Europe.*

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

HENRY DUNDAS.

Message from his Majesty to both Houses of Parliament, Jan. 28, 1793.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty has given directions for laying before the House of Commons copies of several papers which have been received from Mr. Chauvelin, late minister plenipotentiary from the most Christian King, by his Majesty's secretary of state for foreign affairs, and of the answers returned thereto; and likewise a copy of an order made by his Majesty in council, and transmitted by his Majesty's commands to the said Mr.

Mr. Chauvelin, in consequence of the accounts of the atrocious act recently perpetrated at Paris.

In the present situation of affairs, his Majesty thinks it indispensably necessary to make a farther augmentation of his forces by sea and land; and relies on the known affection and zeal of the House of Commons to enable his Majesty to take the most effectual measures, in the present important conjuncture, for maintaining the security and rights of his own dominions, for supporting his allies; and for opposing views of aggrandizement and ambition on the part of France, which would be at all times dangerous to the general interests of Europe, but are peculiarly so when connected with the propagation of principles which lead to the violation of the most sacred duties, and are utterly subversive of the peace and order of all civil society.

G. R.

Resolved by the House of Lords, Feb. 1, 1793,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return his Majesty the thanks of this House for his most gracious message, and for the communication of the papers which, by his Majesty's command, have been laid before us: to offer to his Majesty our heart-felt condolence on the atrocious act lately perpetrated at Paris, which must be viewed by every nation in Europe as an outrage on religion, justice, and humanity, and as a striking and dreadful example of the effect of principles which lead to the violation of the most sacred duties, and are utterly subversive of the peace and order of all civil society.

To assure his Majesty, that it is impossible for us not to be sensible of the views of aggrandizement and ambition which, in violation of repeated and solemn professions, have been openly manifested on the part of France, and which are connected with the propagation of principles incompatible with the existence of all just and regular government: that, under the present circumstances, we consider a vigorous and effectual opposition to those views and principles as essential to the security of every thing which is most dear and valuable to us as a nation, and to the future tranquillity and safety of all other countries.

That, impressed with these sentiments, we shall, with the utmost zeal and alacrity, afford his Majesty the most effectual assistance, to enable his Majesty to make a farther augmentation of his forces by sea and land, and to act as circumstances may require in the present important conjuncture, for maintaining

taining the security and honour of his crown, for supporting the just rights of his allies, and for preserving to his people the undisturbed enjoyment of the blessings which, under the divine Providence, they derive from the British constitution.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Feb. 1, 1793,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to return his Majesty the thanks of this House for his most gracious message, and for the communication of the papers which, by his Majesty's command, have been laid before us.

To offer to his Majesty our heart-felt condolence on the atrocious act lately perpetrated at Paris, which must be viewed by every nation in Europe as an outrage on religion, justice, and humanity, and as a striking and dreadful example of the effect of principles which lead to the violation of the most sacred duties, and are utterly subversive of the peace and order of all civil society.

To assure his Majesty, that it is impossible for us not to be sensible of the views of aggrandizement and ambition which, in violation of repeated and solemn professions, have been openly manifested on the part of France, and which are connected with the propagation of principles incompatible with the existence of all just and regular government: that, under the present circumstances, we consider a vigorous and effectual opposition to these views as essential to the security of every thing which is most dear and valuable to us as a nation, and to the future tranquillity and safety of all other countries.

That, impressed with these sentiments, we shall, with the utmost zeal and alacrity, afford his Majesty the most effectual assistance, to enable his Majesty to make a farther augmentation of his forces by sea and land, and to act as circumstances may require, in the present important conjuncture, for maintaining the security and honour of his crown, for supporting the just rights of his allies, and for preserving to his people the undisturbed enjoyment of the blessings which, under the divine Providence, they derive from the British constitution.

Message from his Majesty to both Houses of Parliament, Feb. 11, 1793.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty thinks proper to acquaint the House of Commons, that the assembly now exercising the powers of government in France, have, without previous notice, directed acts of hostility to be committed against the persons and property of his Majesty's subjects, in breach of the law of nations, and of the most positive stipulations of treaty; and have since, on the most groundless pretences, actually declared war against his Majesty and the United Provinces. Under the circumstances of this wanton and unprovoked aggression, his Majesty has taken the necessary steps to maintain the honour of his crown, and to vindicate the rights of his people; and his Majesty relies with confidence on the firm and effectual support of the House of Commons, and on the zealous exertions of a brave and loyal people, in prosecuting a just and necessary war; and in endeavouring, under the blessing of Providence, to oppose an effectual barrier to the farther progress of a system which strikes at the security and peace of all independent nations, and is pursued in open defiance of every principle of moderation, good faith, humanity, and justice.

In a cause of such general concern, his Majesty has every reason to hope for the cordial co-operation of those powers who are united with his Majesty by the ties of alliance, or who feel an interest in preventing the extension of anarchy and confusion, and in contributing to the security and tranquillity of Europe.

G. R.

Address by the House of Lords to his Majesty, Feb. 12, 1793.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious message.

We assure your Majesty, that we have learnt, with a just sentiment of indignation, that the assembly who now exercise the powers of government in France have directed, without previous notice, the commission of acts of hostility against the persons and property of your Majesty's subjects, in breach of

 the

the law of nations, and of the moſt poſitive ſtipulations of treaty; and that they have ſince, on the moſt groundleſs pretences, actually declared war againſt your Majeſty and the United Provinces. That, under the circumſtances of this perfidious and unprovoked aggreſſion, we are grateful to your Majeſty for the ſteps which your Majeſty has taken to maintain the honour of your crown, and to vindicate the rights of your people: that nothing will be wanting on our part that can contribute to that firm and effectual ſupport which your Majeſty has ſo much reaſon to expect from a brave and loyal people, in the proſecution of this juſt and neceſſary war, and in endeavouring, under the bleſſing of Providence, to oppoſe an effectual barrier to the farther progreſs of a ſyſtem which ſtrikes at the ſecurity and peace of all independent nations, and is purſued in open defiance of every principle of moderation, good faith, humanity, and juſtice.

We aſſure your Majeſty that, deeply as we feel the happineſs of our country intereſted in the reſult of this conteſt, it muſt afford us the greateſt ſatisfaction to learn that, in a cauſe of ſuch general concern, your Majeſty has reaſon to hope for the cordial co-operation of thoſe powers who are united with your Majeſty by the ties of alliance, or who feel an intereſt in preventing the extenſion of anarchy and confuſion, and contributing to the ſecurity and tranquillity of Europe.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my hearty thanks for this very dutiful and affectionate addreſs.

I receive, with the greateſt ſatisfaction, the aſſurances of your firm and effectual ſupport in the proſecution of the juſt and neceſſary war in which I am engaged, in conſequence of the unprovoked aggreſſion of France; and I truſt that, by the bleſſing of Providence, my efforts will be rendered ſucceſsful, for maintaining the rights of my people, preventing the extenſion of anarchy, and contributing to the future ſecurity of Europe.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Feb. 12, 1793,

THAT an humble addrefs be prefented to his Majefty, to return his Majefty the thanks of this Houfe for his moft gracious meffage, informing us, that the affembly, now exercifing the powers of government in France, have, without previous notice, directed acts of hoftility to be committed againft the perfons and property of his Majefty's fubjects, in breach of the law of nations and of the moft pofitive ftipulations of treaty; and have fince, on the moft groundlefs pretences, actually declared war againft his Majefty and the United Provinces: to affure his Majefty that, under the circumftances of this wanton and unprovoked aggreffion, we moft gratefully acknowledge his Majefty's care and vigilance in taking the neceffary fteps for maintaining the honour of his crown, and vindicating the rights of his people: that his Majefty may rely on the firm and effectual fupport of the reprefentatives of a brave and loyal people, in the profecution of a juft and neceffary war, and in endeavouring, under the bleffing of Providence, to oppofe an effectual barrier to the farther progrefs of a fyftem which ftrikes at the fecurity and peace of all independent nations, and is purfued in open defiance of every principle of moderation, good faith, humanity, and juftice.

That, in a caufe of fuch general concern, it muft afford us great fatisfaction to learn that his Majefty has every reafon to hope for the cordial co-operation of thofe powers who are united with his Majefty by the ties of alliance, or who feel an intereft in preventing the extenfion of anarchy and confufion, and in contributing to the fecurity and tranquillity of Europe.

That we are perfuaded that whatever his Majefty's faithful fubjects muft confider as moft dear and facred, the ftability of our happy conftitution, the fecurity and honour of his Majefty's crown, and the prefervation of our laws, our liberty, and our religion, are all involved in the iffue of the prefent conteft; and that our zeal and exertions fhall be proportioned to the importance of the conjuncture, and to the magnitude and value of the objects for which we have to contend.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my warmest thanks for this affectionate and loyal address, and for the cordial assurances of your firm and effectual support in the measures which may be necessary for maintaining the honour of my crown, and for prosecuting with vigour a just and necessary war, in defence of the dearest interests of my people.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 21, 1793.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE firmness, wisdom, and public spirit, by which your conduct has been eminently distinguished on the many important occasions which have arisen during the present session, demand my peculiar acknowledgments.

Your firm determination to support the established constitution, and the zealous and general concurrence in that sentiment, which my subjects have so strongly and seasonably manifested, could not fail to check every attempt to disturb the internal repose of these kingdoms, and you will, I doubt not, in your several counties, encourage the continuance of the same vigilant attention to that important object.

The rapid and signal successes which, in an early period of the campaign, have attended the operations of the combined armies, the respectable and powerful force which you have enabled me to employ by sea and land, and the measures which I have concerted with other powers for the effectual prosecution of the war, afford the best prospect of a happy issue to the important contest in which we are engaged: it is only by perseverance in vigorous exertions, and by endeavouring to improve the advantages already acquired, that we can hope to obtain the great end to which my views are uniformly directed, the restoration of peace on such terms as may be consistent with our permanent security and with the general tranquillity of Europe.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my particular thanks for the cheerfulness and dispatch with which you have granted the necessary supplies; and I am happy to reflect that you have been enabled liberally to provide for the exigencies of the public service in a manner so little burdensome to my people.

My

My Lords and Gentlemen,

The arrangements which you have formed for the government of the Britiſh territories in India, and for the regulation of our commerce with that part of the world, will, I doubt not, ſecure and augment the important benefits which we have already derived from thoſe valuable poſſeſſions. It has been impoſſible for me to ſee, without concern, the embarraſſment which has lately ariſen in the ſtate of commercial credit; but the ſteps which you have taken to prevent the progreſs of that evil appear already to have been productive of very ſalutary conſequences; and while they have afforded a ſtriking inſtance of your attention to the intereſts of my people, their effect has furniſhed additional reaſon to believe that the diſtreſs which has been felt proceeded from a concurrence of temporary cauſes, and not from any diminution of the real wealth, or any failure in the permanent reſources of the country.

I have much ſatisfaction in reflecting on the effectual protection which I have been enabled to afford to the trade of my ſubjects ſince the breaking out of the war; I am, at the ſame time, perſuaded that, if our commercial intereſts had unavoidably been affected to a more conſiderable extent, it would not have been forgotten that we are contending for our future ſecurity and for the permanent preſervation of advantages, the moſt ſtriking and the moſt valuable which any nation has ever, by the bleſſing of Providence, been permitted to enjoy.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majeſty's command, ſaid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majeſty's royal will and pleaſure, that this Parliament be prorogued to Tueſday, the 13th day of Auguſt next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tueſday, the 13th day of Auguſt next.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Speech, Jan. 22, 1794.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE circumſtances under which you are now aſſembled, require your moſt ſerious attention.

We are engaged in a conteſt on the iſſue of which depend the maintenance of our conſtitution, laws, and religion, and the ſecurity of all civil ſociety.

You must have observed, with satisfaction, the advantages which have been obtained by the arms of the allied powers, and the change which has taken place in the general situation of Europe since the commencement of the war The United Provinces have been protected from invasion; the Austrian Netherlands have been recovered and maintained; and places of considerable importance have been acquired on the frontiers of France. The re capture of Mentz, and the subsequent successes of the allied armies on the Rhine, have, notwithstanding the advantages recently obtained by the enemy in that quarter, proved highly beneficial to the common cause.—Powerful efforts have been made by my allies in the south of Europe; the temporary possession of the town and port of Toulon has greatly distressed the operations of my enemies; and in the circumstances attending the evacuation of that place, an important and decisive blow has been given to their naval power, by the distinguished conduct, abilities, and spirit of my commanders, officers, and forces, both by sea and land.

The French have been driven from their possessions and fishery at Newfoundland, and important and valuable acquisitions have been made both in the East and West Indies.

At sea our superiority has been undisputed, and our commerce so effectually protected, that the losses sustained have been inconsiderable, in proportion to its extent, and to the captures made on the contracted trade of the enemy.

The circumstances by which the farther progress of the allies has hitherto been impeded, not only prove the necessity of vigour and perseverance on our part, but at the same time confirm the expectation of ultimate success.

Our enemies have derived the means of temporary exertion from a system which has enabled them to dispose arbitrarily of the lives and property of a numerous people, and which openly violates every restraint of justice, humanity, and religion; but these efforts, productive as they necessarily have been of internal discontent and confusion in France, have also tended rapidly to exhaust the natural and real strength of that country.

Although I cannot but regret the necessary continuance of the war, I should ill consult the essential interests of my people, if I were desirous of peace on any grounds but such as may provide for their permanent safety, and for the independence and security of Europe. The attainment of these ends is still obstructed by the prevalence of a system in France, equally incompatible with the happiness of that country, and with the tranquillity of all other nations.

Under this impression, I thought proper to make a declaration of the views and principles by which I am guided. I have ordered

ordered a copy of this declaration to be laid before you, together with copies of ſeveral conventions and treaties with different powers, by which you will perceive how large a part of Europe is united in a cauſe of ſuch general concern.

I reflect with unſpeakable ſatisfaction on the ſteady loyalty and firm attachment to the eſtabliſhed conſtitution and government, which, notwithſtanding the continued efforts employed to miſlead and to ſeduce, have been ſo generally prevalent among all ranks of my people. Theſe ſentiments have been eminently manifeſted in the zeal and alacrity of the militia to provide for our internal defence, and in the diſtinguiſhing bravery and ſpirit diſplayed on every occaſion by my forces both by ſea and land; they have maintained the luſtre of the Britiſh name, and have ſhewn themſelves worthy of the bleſſings which it is the object of all our exertions to preſerve.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

I have ordered the neceſſary eſtimates and accounts to be laid before you, and I am perſuaded you will be ready to make ſuch proviſion as the exigencies of the time may require. I feel too ſenſibly the repeated proofs which I have received of the affection of my ſubjects, not to lament the neceſſity of any additional burdens. It is, however, a great conſolation to me to obſerve the favourable ſtate of the revenue, and the complete ſucceſs of the meaſure which was laſt year adopted for removing the embarraſſments affecting commercial credit.

Great as muſt be the extent of our exertions, I truſt you will be enabled to provide for them in ſuch a manner as to avoid any preſſure which could be ſeverely felt by my people.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

In all your deliberations, you will undoubtedly bear in mind the true grounds and origin of the war.

An attack was made on us and on our allies, founded on principles which tend to deſtroy all property, to ſubvert the laws and religion of every civilized nation, and to introduce univerſally that wild and deſtructive ſyſtem of rapine, anarchy, and impiety, the effects of which, as they have already been manifeſted in France, furniſh a dreadful but uſeful leſſon to the preſent age and to poſterity.

It only remains for us to perſevere in our united exertions; their diſcontinuance or relaxation could hardly procure even a ſhort interval of deluſive repoſe, and could never terminate in ſecurity or peace. Impreſſed with the neceſſity of defending all that is moſt dear to us, and relying, as we may with confidence, on the valour and reſources of the nation, on the combined

bined efforts of fo large a part of Europe, and above all, on the inconteftable juftice of our caufe, let us render our conduct a contraft to that of our enemies, and by cultivating and practifing the principles of humanity and the duties of religion, endeavour to merit the continuance of the Divine favour and protection which have been fo eminently experienced by thefe kingdoms.

Addrefs of the Houfe of Lords to his Majefty, Jan. 22, 1794.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Lords fpiritual and temporal, in Parliament affembled, beg leave to return your Majefty our humble thanks for your Majefty's moft gracious fpeech from the throne.

Permit us to affure your Majefty, that we fhall enter with the moft ferious attention into the confideration of the prefent circumftances of our country, knowing that on the iffue of the conteft in which we are engaged depend the maintenance of our conftitution, laws, and religion, and the fecurity of all civil fociety.

We congratulate your Majefty on the advantages which have been obtained by the arms of the allied powers, and on the fa-favourable change which has taken place in the general fituation of Europe, fince the commencement of the war. We have feen with great fatisfaction the United Provinces protected from invafion, the Auftrian Netherlands recovered and maintained, and places of confiderable importance acquired on the frontiers of France: we confider the re-capture of Mentz, and the fubfequent fucceffes of the allied armies on the Rhine, as having, notwithftanding the late advantages of the enemy in that quarter, proved highly beneficial to the common caufe; and we are alfo juftly fenfible of the powerful efforts which have been made by your Majefty's allies in the fouth of Europe.

We reflect with particular fatisfaction on the manner in which the operations of your Majefty's enemies have been impeded during fo great a part of the campaign by the temporary poffeffion of the town and port of Toulon; on the important and decifive blow which, in the evacuation of that place, has been given to their naval power, and on the diftinguifhed conduct, abilities, and fpirit manifefted on that occafion by your Majefty's commanders, officers, and forces, both by fea and land.

We beg leave to exprefs the fatisfaction which we alfo feel in feeing that during the courfe of the prefent year the French have been driven from their poffeffions and fifhery at Newfoundland;

land; that important and valuable acquisitions have been made both in the East and West Indies; and that while our naval superiority has been undisputed, our commerce has been so fully and effectually protected.

We can assure your Majesty that we are strongly impressed both with the necessity of vigorous and persevering exertions, and with the expectations of ultimate success from the consideration of the means by which the further progress of the allies has hitherto been impeded, and of the system from which our enemies have derived the means of temporary exertion; such a system, disposing arbitrarily of the lives and property of a numerous people, and violating every restraint of justice, humanity, and religion, has necessarily been productive of internal discontent and confusion, and has tended rapidly to exhaust the natural and real strength of that country.

While we join with your Majesty in regretting the necessary continuance of the war, we are confident that your Majesty's concern for the essential interests of your people will induce your Majesty to persevere in the pursuit of those objects by which alone the solid blessings of peace can be secured; and to take such measures as may most effectually provide for the permanent safety of your Majesty's people, and for the independence and security of Europe. It is impossible for us not to see that the attainment of these ends is still obstructed by the prevalence of a system in France, equally incompatible with the happiness of that country, and with the tranquillity of all other nations; and under this impression, we fully concur in the just and benevolent sentiments manifested in the declaration which your Majesty has graciously been pleased to communicate to us; and we have seen with the utmost satisfaction so large a part of Europe united in a cause of such general concern.

We acknowledge, with pride and gratitude, the gracious manner in which your Majesty is pleased to express your Majesty's sense of the unshaken loyalty and firm attachment to the established constitution and government, which, notwithstanding the continued efforts employed to mislead and to seduce, have been so generally prevalent among all ranks of your Majesty's subjects. The zeal and alacrity of the militia, and the distinguished bravery displayed on every occasion by his Majesty's forces, both by sea and land, have afforded eminent proofs of the same spirit which pervades and animates every class of the nation; and encouraged as your Majesty's forces have been, by the distinguished example of your Majesty's illustrious progeny, and by the sense of the blessings which it is the object of all our exertions to preserve, they have maintained the

the lustre of the British name, and have shewn themselves worthy of the cause in which they are employed.

We intreat your Majesty to be persuaded, that in all our deliberations we shall bear in mind the true grounds and origin of the war. We remember with just indignation the attack made on your Majesty and your Majesty's allies, grounded on principles which tend to destroy all property, to subvert the laws and religion of every civilized nation, and to introduce universally that wild and destructive system of rapine, anarchy, and impiety, the effects of which, as they have already been manifested in France, furnish a dreadful but useful lesson to the present age and to posterity.

We will, on our parts, persevere with union and vigour in our exertions, sensible that by discontinuing or relaxing the present efforts we could hardly procure even a short interval of delusive repose, and could certainly never obtain either security or peace. Deeply impressed with the necessity of defending all that is most dear to us, and relying with confidence on the valour and resources of our country, on the combined efforts of so large a part of Europe, and above all, on the incontestable justice of our cause, we will afford to your Majesty all possible support in the just and necessary system in which your Majesty is embarked; and we trust that all classes of your Majesty's subjects will endeavour, by cultivating and practising the principles of humanity and the duties of religion, to merit the continuance of the Divine favour and protection which have been so eminently experienced by these kingdoms.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I RETURN you my warmest acknowledgments for this very dutiful and loyal address. The sentiments you express respecting the present important situation of public affairs, and the zeal and union you have manifested in support of those measures which can alone tend to maintain the dearest interests of my people, and to secure the tranquillity and independence of Europe, cannot fail of producing the happiest effects, both at home and abroad. You may be assured that nothing shall be wanting on my part to employ with energy and vigour, in a cause of such deep concern, those resources which I derive from the wisdom and firmness of my Parliament, and from the general attachment of my people to the constitution and government of their country, and to the interests of humanity, order, and religion, throughout all Europe.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, Jan. 23, 1794.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

The circumstances under which we are assembled will not fail to command our most serious attention, as we are sensible that on the issue of the contest in which we are engaged, depend the maintenance of our constitution, laws, and religion, and the security of all civil society.

We have observed with satisfaction the advantages which have been obtained by the arms of the allied powers in different parts of Europe, and the change which has taken place in the general situation of affairs upon the continent since the commencement of the war; and we must, in a particular manner, congratulate your Majesty on the valuable possessions which have been acquired from the enemy; on the undisputed superiority at sea which has enabled your Majesty to afford such effectual protection to the commerce of your subjects, and on the important and decisive blow which has been given to the naval power of your enemies, under circumstances which reflect the highest honour upon the conduct, abilities, and spirit of your Majesty's commanders, officers, and forces, both by sea and land.

The system from which our enemies have derived the means of temporary exertion, founded as it is upon the violation of every principle of justice, humanity, and religion, evidently productive of internal discontent and confusion in France, and tending rapidly to exhaust the natural and real strength of that country, appears to prove in the strongest manner, the necessity of vigour and perseverance on our part, and to afford in itself a just expectation of ultimate success.

We must undoubtedly join with your Majesty in regretting the necessary continuance of the war; but we are persuaded that it would be inconsistent with the essential interests of your Majesty's subjects to look to the restoration of peace on any grounds but such as may provide for their permanent safety, and for the independence and security of Europe: and it is impossible for us not to perceive that the attainment of these ends is obstructed by the prevalence of a system in France, equally incompatible with the happiness of that country, and with the tranquillity of all other nations.

We acknowledge your Majesty's goodness in having directed to be laid before us copies of the declaration which your Majesty has thought proper to issue, and also of the several conventions and treaties which your Majesty has concluded.

We most cordially rejoice that your Majesty has so much reason to reflect with satisfaction on the steady loyalty and firm attachment to the established constitution and government, which, notwithstanding the continued efforts employed to mislead and to seduce, have been so generally prevalent amongst all ranks of your Majesty's subjects The zeal and alacrity of the militia to provide for our internal defence, and the distinguished bravery and spirit displayed on every occasion, by your Majesty's forces, both by sea and land, are the natural result of these sentiments, and might well be expected from a brave and free people, animated by the example of your Majesty's illustrious progeny, and sensible of the value of those blessings which it is the object of all our exertions to preserve.

Although we must, at all times, lament the necessity of any additional burdens, we feel it our indispensable duty to make a speedy and ample provision for the public service; and we shall endeavour to defray those expences which the exigencies of the time must require, in such a manner as to avoid, as far as possible, any pressure which could be severely felt by the nation.

Your Majesty may be assured, that in all our deliberations we can never lose sight of the true grounds and origin of the war. We have been called upon, by every motive of duty and self-preservation, to repel an attack made upon your Majesty and your allies, founded upon principles which tend to destroy all property, to subvert the laws and religion of every civilized nation, and to introduce universally that wild and destructive system of rapine, anarchy, and impiety, the effects of which, as they have already been manifested in France, furnish a dreadful, but useful lesson to the present age, and to posterity.

We are sensible that the discontinuance or relaxation of our exertions could hardly procure even a short interval of delusive repose, and could never terminate in security or peace: and we trust that all your Majesty's subjects, impressed with the necessity of defending whatever is most dear to them, and relying with confidence on the valour and resources of their country, on the combined efforts of so large a part of Europe, and, above all, on the incontestable justice of their cause, will study to render their conduct a contrast to that of their enemies; and by cultivating and practising the principles of humanity and the duties of religion, will endeavour to merit the continuance of the Divine favour and protection which have been so eminently experienced by these kingdoms.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my most cordial thanks for this loyal and affectionate address.

It is with great satisfaction that I receive the assurances of your continued and decided support, in the prosecution of the just and necessary war in which we are engaged.

This full and explicit declaration of your sentiments cannot fail to produce the most salutary effects in the present important conjuncture.

Message from his Majesty, Jan. 27, 1794.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty thinks it proper to acquaint the House of Commons, that a corps of Hessian troops taken into the pay of Great Britain, to be employed on foreign service, having been brought to the appointed place of rendezvous off the Isle of Wight, his Majesty has found it necessary, with a view to the preventing any sickness taking place among the said troops from their continuance on board of the transports, to order them to be disembarked, and to be stationed, for the present, on the Isle of Wight, at Portsmouth, and at places adjacent.

G. R.

Message from his Majesty, March 25, 1794.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty thinks it proper to acquaint the House of Commons, that, for the purpose of more effectually guarding against any attempt which may be made on the part of the enemy, to execute their professed design of invading this kingdom, his Majesty has ordered a further augmentation of his land forces, the estimate for which he has directed to be laid before the House. It is also his Majesty's intention to take measures in order to be able, in case of emergency, to assemble speedily a large additional force in any part of the kingdom where it may become necessary; and his Majesty relies, with confidence, on the cordial and effectual support of Parliament, and on the zealous and spirited exertions of his people, in carrying into execution such measures as may be requisite for the general security.

G. R.

Message from his Majesty, April 4, 1794.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty recommends it to the House of Commons to take into consideration the propriety of making provision for the better management of the land revenue of the crown.

G. R.

Message from his Majesty, April 28, 1794.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty has ordered copies of a treaty which has been signed at the Hague, by the plenipotentiaries of his Majesty and the States General of the United Provinces on the one part, and by the plenipotentiary of the King of Prussia on the other part; and likewise of a convention agreed upon between the respective plenipotentiaries of his Majesty and the States General, to be laid before the House: and his Majesty, relying on the zealous and affectionate support of his faithful Commons, in the vigorous prosecution of the war in which he is engaged, recommends it to this House to consider of making provision towards enabling his Majesty to fulfil the engagements which his Majesty has entered into, as well as to defray any extraordinary expences which may be incurred for the service of the present year, and to take such measures as the exigency of affairs may require.

G. R.

Message from his Majesty, May 12, 1794.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty having received information that the seditious practices which have been for some time carried on by certain societies in London, in correspondence with societies in different parts of the country, have lately been pursued with increased activity and boldness, and have been avowedly directed to the object of assembling a pretended general convention of the people, in contempt and defiance of the authority of Parliament, and on principles subversive of the existing laws and constitution, and directly tending to the introduction of that system of anarchy and confusion which has fatally prevaile in France, has given directions for seizing the books and papers of the said societies in London, which have been seized accordingly; and these books and papers appearing to contain matter

matter of the greateſt importance to the public intereſt, his Majeſty has given orders for laying them before the Houſe of Commons; and his Majeſty recommends it to the Houſe to conſider the ſame, and to take ſuch meaſures thereupon as may appear to be neceſſary for effectually guarding againſt the further proſecution of thoſe dangerous deſigns, and for preſerving to his Majeſty's ſubjects the enjoyment of the bleſſings derived to them by the conſtitution happily eſtabliſhed in theſe kingdoms.

G. R.

Joint Addreſs of both Houſes to his Majeſty, May 15, 1794.

Moſt gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lords ſpiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament aſſembled, having taken into our moſt ſerious conſideration the communications which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to make to us, reſpecting deſigns againſt the public peace and ſafety, carried on within this realm, think it our bounden duty at this period, humbly to lay before your Majeſty thoſe ſentiments to which we are led by the reſult of that examination.

We have ſeen with the utmoſt concern and indignation, that there has exiſted within this realm a ſeditious and traitorous conſpiracy, directed to the ſubverſion of the authority of your Majeſty and your Parliament, and to the utter deſtruction of the eſtabliſhed conſtitution and government of theſe your Majeſty's kingdoms; and that for the execution of thoſe wicked and deteſtable deſigns, means of open violence were preparing, and acts meditated, leading to all the horrors of inſurrection, anarchy, and rebellion.

That with the fulleſt conviction of theſe deſigns, thus deliberately entertained, openly avowed, and on the very point of being attempted to be executed, we feel ourſelves bound to expreſs to your Majeſty our gratitude for the paternal care which your Majeſty has ſhewn for the deareſt intereſts of your people, in having taken ſuch meaſures as might beſt tend to defeat all ſuch purpoſes, and to bring the authors and abettors of them to public juſtice.

We have on our part proceeded without delay, after the example of our anceſtors, and under the juſt impreſſion of the exigency of ſuch a ſituation, to veſt in your Majeſty, by law, ſuch additional powers as ſeem beſt calculated to provide for the public peace and tranquillity: and we rely with confidence on your Majeſty's employing all legal and conſtitutional means for the puniſhment of ſuch crimes; for the ſuppreſſion of the

first appearance of any tumult or disorder connected with them; and generally for the giving, as the circumstances manifestly require, full energy and vigour to the execution of the laws by which all your Majesty's subjects are equally protected, and from which alone they can derive the secure enjoyment of property, of liberty, and of life itself.

And we beg leave to assure your Majesty, that as we are determined to defend with resolution and vigour, against our foreign enemies, the rights of your Majesty's crown, the safety and welfare of our country, and the existence of good order and civil society, so we will, on every occasion, afford to your Majesty the fullest support and assistance in maintaining inviolate the free constitution of these realms, in preserving internal peace and tranquillity, and in resisting the desperate purposes of those who would introduce among us the miseries which now prevail in France; such being the conduct which we feel to be due from us, as faithful and affectionate subjects, and as men deeply impressed with the value of the blessings which we enjoy.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, July 11, 1794.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE state of public business enables me to close this session of Parliament, in doing which I have again to acknowledge that assiduity and zeal for the interests of my people, of which you had before given me so many proofs, and which have been so particularly manifested in the present year.

I am persuaded that you entertain too just a sense of the nature and importance of the contest in which we are engaged, to suffer your zeal to be abated, or your perseverance shaken, by the recent successes of the enemy in the Netherlands.

In a moment which so strongly calls for energy and vigour, it is peculiarly gratifying to me to reflect on the uniform skill and bravery of my fleets and armies, the undaunted spirit and unwearied exertions of my officers and troops in every situation, and the general public spirit of my people, which have never at any period been more conspicuous.

I have observed with the highest satisfaction the rapid and valuable acquisitions made in the East and West Indies, the successful operations which have been carried on in the Mediterranean, and the brilliant and decisive victory obtained by my fleet under the command of Earl Howe, an event which must ever be remembered as one of the most glorious in the naval history of this country.

Gen-

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I return you my warmest thanks for the cheerfulness and liberality with which you have granted the large supplies which were necessary for the service of the year, and for the maintenance of a cause equally important to the security and happiness of every class of my subjects.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I feel it incumbent upon me particularly to acknowledge your diligence in the investigation of the designs which had been formed against the government and constitution of these kingdoms, and to thank you for the confidence you have reposed in me on this occasion. It will be a principal object of my attention to make a vigorous and prudent use of the additional powers vested in me for the protection and security of my people; and relying, as I do, with the utmost confidence, on the uniform loyalty and public spirit of the great body of my subjects, I have no doubt of speedily and effectually repressing every attempt to disturb the public peace, and of defeating the wicked designs which have been in agitation.

It must not, however, be forgotten, that these designs against our domestic happiness are essentially connected with the system now prevailing in France, of which the principles and spirit are irreconcileably hostile to all regular and established government; and that we are therefore called upon by every consideration of our own internal safety to continue our efforts in conjunction with my allies, and to persevere with increased vigour and exertion in a contest, from the successful termination of which we can alone expect to establish on a solid and permanent foundation the future security and tranquillity either of this country, or of the other nations of Europe.

The Lord Chancellor, by his Majesty's command, said,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majesty's royal will and pleasure that this Parliament be prorogued to Tuesday, the 19th day of August next, to be then here holden: and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Tuesday, the 19th day of August next.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, Dec. 30, 1794.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

AFTER the uniform experience which I have had of your zealous regard for the interests of my people, it is a great satisfaction to me to recur to your advice and assistance, at a period which calls for the full exertion of your energy and wisdom.

Notwithstanding the disappointments and reverses which we have experienced in the course of the last campaign, I retain a firm conviction of the necessity of persisting in a vigorous prosecution of the just and necessary war in which we are engaged.

You will, I am confident, agree with me, that it is only from firmness and perseverance that we can hope for the restoration of peace on safe and honourable grounds, and for the preservation and permanent security of our dearest interests.

In considering the situation of our enemies, you will not fail to observe, that the efforts which have led to their successes, and the unexampled means by which alone those efforts could have been supported, have produced among themselves the pernicious effects which were to be expected; and that every thing which has passed in the interior of the country has shewn the progressive and rapid decay of their resources, and the instability of every part of that violent and unnatural system, which is equally ruinous to France, and incompatible with the tranquillity of other nations.

The States General of the United Provinces have, nevertheless, been led, by a sense of present difficulties, to enter into negotiations for peace with the party now prevailing in that unhappy country. No established government or independent state can, under the present circumstances, derive real security from negotiations: on our part, they could not be attempted without sacrificing both our honour and safety to an enemy whose chief animosity is avowedly directed against these kingdoms.

I have, therefore, continued to use the most effectual means for the further augmentation of my forces; and I shall omit no opportunity of concerting the operations of the next campaign with such of the powers of Europe as are impressed with the same sense of the necessity of vigour and exertion. I place the fullest reliance on the valour of my forces, and on the affection and public spirit of my people, in whose behalf I am contending, and whose safety and happiness are the objects of my constant solicitude.

The local importance of Corsica, and the spirited efforts of its inhabitants to deliver themselves from the yoke of France, determined me not to with-hold the protection which they sought for; and I have since accepted the crown and sovereignty of that country, according to an instrument, a copy of which I have directed to be laid before you.

I have great pleasure in informing you that I have concluded a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, with the United States of America, in which it has been my object to remove, as far as possible, all grounds of jealousy and misunderstanding, and to improve an intercourse beneficial to both countries. As soon as the ratifications shall have been exchanged, I will direct a copy of this treaty to be laid before you, in order that you may consider of the propriety of making such provisions as may appear necessary for carrying it into effect.

I have the greatest satisfaction in announcing to you the happy event of the conclusion of a treaty for the marriage of my son, the Prince of Wales, with the Princess Caroline, daughter of the Duke of Brunswick. The constant proofs of your affection for my person and family persuade me that you will participate in the sentiments I feel on an occasion so interesting to my domestic happiness, and that you will enable me to make provision for such an establishment as you may think suitable to the rank and dignity of the heir apparent to the crown of these kingdoms.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

The considerations which prove the necessity of a vigorous prosecution of the war will, I doubt not, induce you to make a timely and ample provision for the several branches of the public service, the estimates for which I have directed to be laid before you. While I regret the necessity of large additional burdens on my subjects, it is a just consolation and satisfaction to me, to observe the state of our credit, commerce, and resources, which is the natural result of the continued exertions of industry under the protection of a free and well-regulated government.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

A just sense of the blessings now so long enjoyed by this country will, I am persuaded, encourage you to make every effort which can enable you to transmit those blessings unimpaired to your posterity.

I entertain a confident hope that, under the protection of Providence, and with constancy and perseverance on our part, the principles of social order, morality, and religion, will ultimately

mately be successful; and that my faithful people will find their present exertions and sacrifices rewarded by the secure and permanent enjoyment of tranquillity at home, and by the deliverance of Europe from the greatest danger with which it has been threatened since the establishment of civilized society.

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, Dec. 30, 1794.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We eagerly embrace the first opportunity of laying before your Majesty our dutiful and respectful congratulations on the auspicious event of the conclusion of the treaty for the marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, with the Princess Caroline of Brunswick. While we partake in the gratification which must arise to your Majesty on an occasion so interesting to your Majesty's domestic happiness, and to that of the illustrious and amiable Prince, whose virtues are so justly dear to us, we look forward, with the utmost satisfaction, to the hope, that, in a long and uninterrupted line of descent, this country may continue to enjoy the blessings which it has experienced under your Majesty's paternal government, and under the auspicious reigns of the sovereigns of the House of Brunswick.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we shall, with the utmost cheerfulness, concur in enabling your Majesty to make provision for such an establishment as may be suitable to the rank and dignity of the heir apparent of these kingdoms.

Permit us to assure your Majesty, that, notwithstanding the disappointments and reverses of the last campaign, we concur with your Majesty in a firm conviction of the necessity of persisting in a vigorous prosecution of the present just and necessary war; being persuaded that the attainment of a just and honourable peace, and the preservation and permanent security of all our dearest interests, are only to be hoped for from firmness and perseverance; that, impressed with these sentiments, we derive additional encouragement from observing that the measures adopted by our enemies have produced among themselves the pernicious effects which were to be expected from them; and that every thing which has passed in that country, has manifested the rapid decay of their resources, and the instability of every part of that violent and unnatural system, which is

equally ruinous to France, and incompatible with the tranquillity of other states.

Whatever may be the issue of the negotiations into which the United Provinces have been induced to enter, we are persuaded that no established government or independent state can, under the present circumstances, derive real security from such negotiations; and that, on our part, they could not be attempted without the sacrifice of our honour and safety to an enemy whose chief animosity is directed against these kingdoms. In this state of affairs, we are sensible of the necessity of your Majesty's having continued to use effectual means for the further augmentation of your forces; and we rely on your Majesty's omitting no opportunity of concerting the operations of the next campaign with such of the powers of Europe as are impressed with the same sense of the necessity of vigour and exertion; and we trust that the valour of your Majesty's forces, and the public spirit of the British nation, will enable your Majesty to provide effectually for the interests and safety of your faithful people, in whose behalf your Majesty is now contending, and for whose happiness your Majesty has ever shewn the most paternal care and solicitude.

We return your Majesty our grateful thanks for the communication which your Majesty has been pleased to direct to be made to us of the instrument by which your Majesty has accepted the crown and sovereignty of Corsica; fully sensible that the local importance of that island, and the spirited efforts of its inhabitants to deliver themselves from the yoke of France, have justly determined your Majesty not to withhold the protection which they sought for.

We beg leave to express to your Majesty our satisfaction in learning that a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, has been concluded between your Majesty and the United States of America; and to assure your Majesty, that we shall willingly concur in such measures as may best tend to remove the grounds of jealousy and misunderstanding, and to improve an intercourse beneficial to both countries.

We intreat your Majesty to be persuaded, that a just sense of the blessings we have now so long enjoyed, will animate us to every effort which can enable us to transmit those blessings unimpaired to our posterity; and that it is our earnest and confident hope that, under the protection of the divine Providence, and with constancy and perseverance on our part, the principles of social order, morality, and religion, will ultimately be successful; and that your Majesty's faithful people may find their present exertions and sacrifices rewarded by the secure and permanent enjoyment of tranquillity at home, and by the deliverance

verance of Europe from the greatest danger with which it has been threatened since the establishment of civilized society.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful address, and particularly for your congratulations to me on the approaching marriage of my son, the Prince of Wales.

The expressions of your zeal for the honour of my crown, and for the prosperity and safety of my people, and your assurances of concurrence and support in that line of conduct from which, alone, in the actual situation of affairs, we can derive either present security or future tranquillity, cannot but be highly satisfactory to me. The firmness and perseverance of Parliament, and the spirit and energy of my people, will, I doubt not, lead to a prosperous and successful termination of this great contest.

Address of the House of Commons to his Majesty, Dec. 30, 1794.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty the thanks of this House for your most gracious speech from the throne; to assure your Majesty, that it is equally our duty and our anxious desire to second your Majesty's views for the welfare of your people, at this important crisis, by our best advice and assistance; that, much as we must desire the restoration of peace, on safe and honourable grounds, we join with your Majesty in thinking that it is only from firmness and perseverance that we can hope for the attainment of that end, and for the preservation and permanent security of our dearest interests; and that, notwithstanding the disappointments and reverses which have been experienced in the course of the last campaign, we retain a firm conviction of the necessity of persisting in the vigorous prosecution of the just and necessary war in which we are engaged; from considering the situation of our enemies, we are persuaded that the efforts which have led to their successes, and the unexampled means by which those efforts have been supported, have produced, among themselves, the pernicious effects which were to be expected from them; and that the circumstances which have taken place in the interior of the country, afford strong marks of the progressive

greſſive and rapid decay of their reſources, and of the inſtability of every part of that violent and unnatural ſyſtem which is equally ruinous to France, and incompatible with the tranquillity of other nations.

Although a ſenſe of preſent difficulties has led the States General of the United Provinces to enter into negotiations for peace with the party now prevailing in France, we are fully ſenſible how little real ſecurity any eſtabliſhed government or independent ſtate can derive, under the preſent circumſtances, from the reſult of ſuch negotiations; and we are convinced that they could not be attempted, on our part, without ſacrificing both our honour and ſafety to an enemy whoſe chief animoſity is avowedly directed againſt theſe kingdoms.

We cannot but applaud your Majeſty's determination to uſe the moſt effectual means for the further augmentation of your forces, and to omit no opportunity of concerting the operations of the next campaign with ſuch of the powers of Europe as are impreſſed with the ſame ſenſe of the neceſſity of vigour and exertion.

We are perſuaded your Majeſty may, at all times, juſtly rely on the valour of your forces by ſea and land, and on the affection and public ſpirit of your people, contending for their eſſential intereſts, and deeply ſenſible of your Majeſty's parental ſolicitude for their happineſs and welfare.

We acknowledge your Majeſty's goodneſs in having directed the inſtrument by which you have accepted the crown and ſovereignty of Corſica to be laid before us; and we are ſenſible that the local importance of that iſland, and the ſpirited efforts of its inhabitants, naturally recommended them to your Majeſty's protection.

It gives us great pleaſure to learn that your Majeſty has concluded a treaty with the United States of America, with the view of removing, as far as poſſible, all grounds of jealouſy and miſunderſtanding, and of improving an intercourſe beneficial to both countries; and that we ſhall be ready, as ſoon as the treaty is laid before us, to conſider of the neceſſary proviſions for carrying it into effect.

We cannot ſufficiently expreſs the ſatisfaction which all your Majeſty's ſubjects muſt derive from the auſpicious event of the concluſion of a treaty for the marriage of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales with the Princeſs Caroline, daughter of the Duke of Brunſwick; and that, participating warmly in the ſentiments which your Majeſty muſt feel on an occaſion not leſs connected with the intereſts of your people than with the domeſtic happineſs of your Majeſty, we ſhall cheerfully proceed to enable your Majeſty to make proviſion for an eſtabliſh-

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ment ſuitable to the rank and dignity of the heir apparent to the crown of theſe kingdoms.

The conſiderations which prove the neceſſity of a vigorous proſecution of the war cannot fail to induce us to make a timely and ample proviſion for the ſeveral branches of the public ſervice; and while we feel the painful neceſſity of impoſing additional burdens on our conſtituents, it is a juſt conſolation and ſatisfaction to us to learn, that the ſtate of our credit, commerce, and reſources, is ſuch as might naturally be expected to reſult from the continued exertions of induſtry, under the protection of a free and well-regulated government.

Entertaining a juſt ſenſe of the bleſſings now ſo long enjoyed by this country, we feel it incumbent upon us to make every effort which can enable us to tranſmit thoſe bleſſings unimpaired to our poſterity; and we cordially join with your Majeſty in a confident hope that, under the protection of Providence, and with conſtancy and perſeverance on our part, the principles of ſocial order, morality, and religion, will ultimately be ſucceſsful; and that your Majeſty's faithful ſubjects will find their preſent exertions and ſacrifices rewarded by the ſecure and permanent enjoyment of tranquillity at home, and by the deliverance of Europe from the greateſt danger with which it has been threatened ſince the eſtabliſhment of civilized ſociety.

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Anſwer.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I RETURN you my moſt cordial thanks for this loyal and dutiful addreſs, and for the affectionate ſentiments which you expreſs on the approaching marriage of my ſon, the Prince of Wales.

The aſſurances of your continued and zealous ſupport in the important conteſt in which we are engaged afford me the greateſt ſatisfaction. Your firmneſs and perſeverance, and the ſpirit and exertions of my people, can alone lead to a ſucceſsful and honourable termination of the war, and to the firm eſtabliſhment of general tranquillity.

Meſſage

Message from his Majesty, Feb. 4, 1795.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty thinks it proper to acquaint the House, that he has received from the Emperor strong assurances of a disposition to make the greatest exertions for the common cause in the course of the next campaign. But it is represented on the part of his Imperial Majesty, that these efforts cannot be made without the assistance of a loan, which his Imperial Majesty is desirous of raising on the credit of the revenues of his hereditary dominions, under the guarantee of his Majesty, with the concurrence of Parliament, to the extent of four millions, and it is stated, that such loan, in addition to his other resources, would enable his Imperial Majesty to employ against the common enemy the force of 200,000 effective men. His Majesty is of opinion that, on these grounds, such an arrangement would be beneficial to the common cause, but thinks that it would be still more advantageous, if, by the means of a similar loan to a larger extent, the Emperor should be enabled to employ a force still more considerable; and his Majesty has desired his minister at Vienna, to express his readiness to recommend to his Parliament an arrangement founded on that principle. Some temporary advance which his Majesty was induced to make for the immediate supply of the Austrian army, under the pressure of unforeseen circumstances in the latter part of the last campaign, will be included in any arrangement of this nature; as soon as the negotiation is concluded, his Majesty will not fail to communicate the result to Parliament; but as any measure of this sort is necessarily connected with the consideration of the provision to be made for the current service of the year, his Majesty has thought it right not to delay making this communication; and he relies on the zeal and public spirit of his faithful Commons, for taking such measures, as, on full consideration of all the circumstances they may think most conducive to the immediate interests of this country, at the present conjuncture, and to the great object of re-establishing, on secure and honourable grounds, the peace and tranquillity of these kingdoms and of Europe.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Feb. 5, 1795,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty to return his Majesty the thanks of this House for his most gracious message, and for his condescension and goodness in having

having been pleafed to communicate the ftate of the negotiation in which his Majefty is engaged with the Emperor;

To affure his Majefty that when his Majefty fhall be enabled, according to his gracious intention, to lay before us the refult of that negotiation, and the arrangement relative to the temporary advances made by his Majefty in the latter part of the laft campaign, we fhall proceed to take the fubject into our further confideration with the ferious attention which it will deferve: that in the mean time we think it our duty to exprefs to his Majefty the ftrong fenfe we entertain of the advantages which might be derived to the common caufe from the vigorous co-operation of a powerful Auftrian army in the next campaign; and to offer our humble opinion to his Majefty, that if it fhould appear likely that that advantage may be effectually fecured by enabling his Majefty to guarantee, under proper conditions, a loan, to be raifed by the Emperor, to fuch an amount as may be thought reafonable, and proportioned to the extent of his efforts, the adoption of fuch a meafure may be effentially conducive to the immediate interefts of his Majefty's fubjects at this conjuncture, and to the great object of re-eftablifhing, on a fecure and permanent foundation, the peace and tranquillity of thefe kingdoms, and of Europe.

A SIMILAR refolution was paffed in the Houfe of Lords.

Addrefs of the Houfe of Commons to his Majefty, April 10, 1795.

Moft gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majefty's moft dutiful and loyal fubjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament affembled, moft humbly beg leave to congratulate your Majefty on the nuptials of his Royal Highnefs the Prince of Wales; and to exprefs the cordial fatisfaction which your Majefty's faithful Commons feel on an event, which promifes to gratify the wifhes of your Majefty's faithful fubjects, by augmenting the domeftic felicity of your Majefty and your illuftrious family, and by affording additional fecurity to the enjoyment of thofe bleffings which have been experienced in thefe kingdoms, under the aufpicious government of the Princes of the Houfe of Brunfwick.

A SIMILAR addrefs was prefented by the Houfe of Peers.

His

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

I RECEIVE with the most cordial satisfaction this dutiful and loyal address as a fresh proof of your attachment to my person and family, and of the warm interest you take in whatever concerns my domestic happiness.

Message from his Majesty, April 27, 1795.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty relies on the liberality and affection of his faithful Commons, and in the cordial interest which they have manifested in the happy event of the nuptials of the Prince and Princess of Wales, that they will be ready to concur in such provision as they may judge necessary, to enable his Majesty to settle an establishment for the Prince and Princess, suited to their rank and dignity.

On an occasion, in all other respects so satisfactory, his Majesty feels the deepest regret in being under the necessity of communicating to the House, that the benefit of any settlement to be now made, cannot be effectually secured to the Prince of Wales, without providing the means of freeing him from incumbrances to a large amount, to which he is now subject.

Anxious as his Majesty must necessarily be, particularly under the present circumstances, to relieve the Prince of Wales from these difficulties, his Majesty entertains no idea of proposing to his Parliament to make any provision for this object, otherwise than by the application of a part of the income which may be settled on the Prince; but he earnestly recommends it to the House, to consider of the propriety of thus providing for the gradual discharge of these incumbrances, by appropriating and securing for a given term, the revenues arising from the Duchy of Cornwall, together with a proportion of the Prince's other annual income; and his Majesty will be ready and desirous to concur in any provisions which the wisdom of Parliament may suggest, for the purposes of establishing a regular and punctual order of payment, in the Prince's future expenditure, and of guarding against the possibility of the Prince being again involved in so painful and embarrassing a situation.

G. R.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, June 27, 1795.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE zealous and uniform regard which you have shewn to the general interests of my people, and particularly the prudent, firm, and spirited support, which you have continued to afford me, in the prosecution of the great contest in which we are still unavoidable engaged, demand our warmest acknowledgments.

The encouragement which my allies must derive from the knowledge of your sentiments, and the extraordinary exertions which you have enabled me to make, in supporting and augmenting my naval and military forces, afford the means most likely to conduce to the restoration of peace to these kingdoms, and to the re-establishment of general tranquillity, on a secure, an honourable, and a lasting foundation.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I have to return you my hearty thanks for the liberal and ample supplies, which the resources of the country have enabled you to provide, beyond all former example, for the various exigencies of the public service.

I have also to acknowledge, with peculiar sensibility, the recent proof which you have given me of your attachment to my person and family, in the provision which you have made for settling the establishment of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and for extricating the Prince from the incumbrances in which he was involved.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It is impossible to contemplate the internal situation of the enemy with whom we are contending, without indulging an hope that the present circumstances of France may, in their effects, hasten the return of such a state of order and regular government as may be capable of maintaining the accustomed relations of amity and peace with other powers.

The issue, however, of these extraordinary transactions, is out of the reach of human foresight.

Till that desirable period arrives, when my subjects can be restored to the secure enjoyment of the blessings of peace, I shall not fail to make the most effectual use of the force which you have put into my hands.

It is with the utmost satisfaction that I have recently received the advices of an important and brilliant success obtained over the enemy by a detachment of my fleet, under the able conduct of Lord Bridport.

I have every reafon to rely on the continuance of the diftinguifhed bravery and conduct of my fleet and armies, as well as of the zeal, fpirit, and perfeverance of my people, which have been uniformly manifefted through the whole courfe of this juft and neceffary war.

Then the Lord Chancellor, by his Majefty's command, faid,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is his Majefty's royal will and pleafure that this Parliament be prorogued to Thurfday, the 5th day of Auguft next, to be then here holden; and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued to Thurfday, the 5th day of Auguft next.

His Majefty's moft gracious Speech, October 29, 1795.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

IT is a great fatisfaction to me to reflect, that, notwithftanding the many events unfavourable to the common caufe, the profpect refulting from the general fituation of affairs has, in many important refpects, been materially improved in the courfe of the prefent year.

In Italy, the threatened invafion of the French has been prevented, and they have been driven back from a confiderable part of the line of coaft which they had occupied.—There is alfo reafon to hope, that the recent operations of the Auftrian armies have checked the progrefs which they had made on the fide of Germany, and fruftrated the offenfive projects which they were purfuing in that quarter.

The fucceffes which have attended their military operations in other parts of the campaign, and the advantages which they have derived from the conclufion of feparate treaties with fome of the powers who were engaged in the war, are far from compenfating the evils which they experience from its continuance. The deftruction of their commerce, the diminution of their maritime power, and the unparalleled embarraffment and diftrefs of their internal fituation, have produced the impreffion which was naturally to be expected; and a general fenfe appears to prevail throughout France, that the only relief from the increafing preffure of thefe difficulties muft arife from the reftoration of peace, and the eftablifhment of fome fettled fyftem of government.

The diftraction and anarchy which have fo long prevailed in that country have led to a crifis, of which it is as yet impof-

ſible to foreſee the iſſue; but which muſt, in all human probability, produce conſequences highly important to the intereſts of Europe. Should this criſis terminate in any order of things compatible with the tranquillity of other countries, and affording a reaſonable expectation of ſecurity and permanence in any treaty which might be concluded, the appearance of a diſpoſition to negotiate for general peace, on juſt and ſuitable terms, will not fail to be met, on my part, with an earneſt deſire to give it the fulleſt and ſpeedieſt effect. But I am perſuaded you will agree with me, that nothing is ſo likely to inſure and accelerate this deſirable end, as to ſhew that we are prepared for either alternative, and are determined to proſecute the war with the utmoſt energy and vigour, until we have the means of concluding, in conjunction with our allies, ſuch a peace as the juſtice of our cauſe and the ſituation of the enemy may entitle us to expect.

With this view I am continuing to make the greateſt exertions for maintaining and improving our naval ſuperiority, and for carrying on active and vigorous operations in the Weſt Indies, in order to ſecure and extend the advantages which we have gained in that quarter, and which are ſo nearly connected with our commercial reſources and maritime ſtrength.

I rely with full confidence on the continuance of your firm and zealous ſupport, on the uniform bravery of my fleets and armies, and on the fortitude, perſeverance, and public ſpirit, of all ranks of my people.

The acts of hoſtility committed by the United Provinces, under the influence and controul of France, have obliged me to treat them as in a ſtate of war with this country.

The fleet which I have employed in the North Seas has received the moſt cordial and active aſſiſtance from the naval force furniſhed by the Empreſs of Ruſſia, and has been enabled effectually to check the operations of the enemy in that quarter.

I have concluded engagements of defenſive alliance with the two Imperial Courts; and the ratifications of the treaty of commerce with the United States of America, which I announced to you laſt year, have now been exchanged. I have directed copies of theſe treaties to be laid before you.

Gentlemen of the Houſe of Commons,

It is matter of deep concern to me, that the exigencies of the public ſervice will require farther additions to the heavy burdens which have been unavoidably impoſed on my people. I truſt that their preſſure will, in ſome degree, be alleviated by the flouriſhing ſtate of our commerce and manufactures, and that our expences, though neceſſarily great in their amount,

will,

will, under the actual circumstances of the war, admit of considerable diminution in comparison of those of the present year.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I have observed for some time past, with the greatest anxiety, the very high price of grain, and that anxiety is increased by the apprehension, that the produce of the wheat harvest in the present year may not have been such as effectually to relieve my people from the difficulties with which they have had to contend. The spirit of order and submission to the laws which, with very few exceptions, has manifested itself under this severe pressure, will, I am sure, be felt by you as an additional incentive to apply yourselves with the utmost diligence to the consideration of such measures as may tend to alleviate the present distress, and to prevent, as far as possible, the renewal of similar embarrassments in future. Nothing has been omitted, on my part, that appeared likely to contribute to this end; and you may be assured of my hearty concurrence in whatever regulations the wisdom of Parliament may adopt, on a subject so peculiarly interesting to my people, whose welfare will ever be the object nearest my heart.

Address of the House of Lords to his Majesty, Oct. 31, 1795.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your Majesty's most gracious speech from the throne.

We beg leave to assure your Majesty, that we see with great pleasure, that, notwithstanding many events unfavourable to the common cause, a material improvement in the general prospect of affairs appears to have taken place in the course of the present year; and particularly, that the threatened invasion of Italy has been prevented, and that the offensive projects, which the French were pursuing on the side of Germany, have been frustrated by the recent operations of the Austrian army. We are sensible, that the advantages which our enemies have derived from the successes which have attended their military operations in other parts of the campaign, and from the conclusion of separate treaties of peace, are far from compensating the evils they experience from the continuance of the war; and it is particularly satisfactory to us to observe, with your Majesty, the impression which has been produced by the destruction of their commerce, the diminution of their naval

ſtrength, and the diſtreſs of their internal ſituation, as well as the general ſenſe which appears to prevail in France, of the neceſſity of peace and ſettled government, in order to relieve the increaſing preſſure of theſe difficulties.

While we feel the uncertainty of the iſſue of the criſis to which the diſtraction and anarchy of France have now led, we are fully ſenſible of the important conſequences which it muſt probably produce. If this criſis ſhould terminate in any order of things compatible with the tranquillity of other countries, and affording a reaſonable expectation of ſecurity and permanence in any treaty which might be concluded, we ſhould ſee with pleaſure a diſpoſition in the enemy to treat for general peace, on juſt and ſuitable terms; and in the gracious declaration of your Majeſty's views in that reſpect, we recogniſe the ſame paternal attention to the welfare of your Majeſty's ſubjects, which we have had ſo many occaſions to ſee with gratitude: but we ſhould very ill diſcharge our duty to your Majeſty and to our country, if we did not readily concur in every meaſure which may be neceſſary to convince our enemies that we are prepared for either alternative, and are determined to ſupport your Majeſty in the vigorous proſecution of the war, till your Majeſty ſhall be enabled to conclude, in conjunction with your allies, ſuch a peace as the juſtice of our cauſe and the ſituation of the enemy may entitle your Majeſty to expect: and we are ſenſible how important it is, for theſe objects, to maintain and improve our naval ſuperiority, and to ſecure and extend the advantages obtained in the Weſt Indies, ſo nearly connected with our commercial reſources and maritime ſtrength.

Permit us to aſſure your Majeſty, that, while we regret the neceſſity under which your Majeſty has found yourſelf, of treating the United Provinces as in a ſtate of war, we learn, with much ſatisfaction, the cordial and active aſſiſtance afforded by the naval force furniſhed to your Majeſty by the Empreſs of Ruſſia.

We return your Majeſty our grateful thanks for the communication which your Majeſty has been pleaſed to direct to be made to us, of the defenſive engagements concluded by your Majeſty with the two Imperial Courts, and of the treaty with the United States of America.

We beg leave to aſſure your Majeſty, that we are deeply ſenſible of the paternal ſentiments expreſſed by your Majeſty reſpecting the difficulties ariſing to your Majeſty's ſubjects from the high price of grain: we have the higheſt pleaſure in reflecting on the gracious manner in which your Majeſty is pleaſed to expreſs your ſenſe of the ſpirit of order and ſubmiſſion to the laws, which, with very few exceptions, has

continued

continued to manifest itself under this severe pressure: and we entreat your Majesty to be persuaded, that we shall not fail to apply ourselves, with the utmost diligence, to the consideration of such measures as may tend to alleviate the present distress, and to prevent the renewal of it in future. Relying with the utmost confidence on the concurrence of your Majesty in such remedies as may be found practicable, in a concern so important to the welfare of your Majesty's subjects, which we know, from long experience, to be always the object nearest to your Majesty's heart.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords,

I RECEIVE with the greatest pleasure this very loyal and dutiful address.

The sense which you entertain of the present situation and prospect of affairs, and the assurances you give me of your support in that line of conduct which I have judged it necessary to pursue, must produce the best effects with a view to either of the alternatives to which the present crisis may lead.

My exertions shall be unremittingly employed to maintain the honour and essential interest of my kingdoms, and promote the welfare and prosperity of my people.

Address by the House of Commons to his Majesty, Oct. 31, 1795.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Commons of Great Britain, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to return your Majesty our humble thanks for your most gracious speech from the throne.

We participate in the satisfaction your Majesty feels from reflecting, that notwithstanding the many events unfavourable to the common cause, the prospect resulting from the general situation of affairs has, in many important respects, been materially improved in the course of the present year.

We derive great pleasure from observing the events which have taken place in Italy, and from finding reason to hope, that a check has been given to the progress of the French on the side of Germany by the recent operations of the Austrian army.

In contemplating the situation of our enemies, we cannot but be sensible, that the successes which have, in some parts of the campaign, attended their military operations, and the

advantages which they have derived from the conclusion of separate treaties with some of the powers who were engaged in the war, cannot compensate for the evils which they experience from its continuance: and it is natural to suppose, that the destruction of their commerce, the diminution of their maritime power, and the unparalleled embarrassment and distress of their internal situation, must have produced a general sense, that the only relief from the increasing pressure of their difficulties must arise from the restoration of peace, and the establishment of some settled system of government.

We are well aware how impossible it is to foresee the issue of the extraordinary crisis which has arisen in that country; but we receive, with the truest satisfaction, your Majesty's gracious declaration, that should it terminate in any order of things compatible with the tranquillity of other countries, and affording a reasonable expectation of security and permanence in any treaty which might be concluded, the appearance of a disposition to negotiate for general peace on just and suitable terms will not fail to be met, on the part of your Majesty, with an earnest desire to give it the fullest and speediest effect.

We, at the same time, cordially join with your Majesty in the persuasion, that nothing is so likely to insure and accelerate this desirable end, and to provide for the permanent interests of your kingdom, as to shew that we are prepared for either alternative, and that we are determined to prosecute the war with the utmost energy and vigour, until your Majesty has the means of concluding, in conjunction with your allies, such a peace as the justice of the cause in which we are engaged, and the situation of the enemy, may entitle us to expect.

Impressed with these sentiments, we shall feel it our duty to give your Majesty our firmest and most decided support in your Majesty's farther exertions, and particularly in those which are directed to the maintenance and improvement of our naval superiority, and for securing and extending the advantages which have been gained in the West Indies, and which are so nearly connected with our commercial resources and maritime strength: and we are persuaded, your Majesty may securely rely on the uniform and unshaken bravery of your fleets and armies, and on the fortitude, perseverance, and public spirit of all ranks of your people.

While we cannot but lament that the influence and controul exercised by France over the United Provinces, should have produced acts of hostility, which have obliged your Majesty to treat them as in a state of war with this country, it must, at the same time, afford us much satisfaction to learn, that the fleet which your Majesty has employed in the North Seas, has

received the most cordial and active assistance from the naval force furnished by the Empress of Russia, and has been enabled effectually to check the operations of the enemy in that quarter.

We acknowledge your Majesty's condescension, in having directed to be laid before us copies of the engagements of defensive alliance which your Majesty has concluded with the two Imperial Courts; and of the treaty with the United States of America.

Although we must at all times see, with regret, the necessity of making farther additions to the heavy burdens which have unavoidably been imposed on our constituents, we feel it an indispensable duty to make such provision for the different branches of the public service, as the exigency of affairs may require; and it will afford us great satisfaction to find that the pressure of these burdens is, in some degree, alleviated by the flourishing state of our commerce and manufactures, and that our expences will, under the actual circumstances of the war, admit of considerable diminution in comparison with those of the present year.

We are deeply sensible of your Majesty's paternal goodness in the expressions of the anxiety with which your Majesty has observed the high price of grain, and of your apprehension that the produce of the wheat harvest, in the present year, may not have been such as effectually to relieve your people from the difficulties with which they have had to contend. The spirit of order and submission to the laws, which, with few exceptions, has manifested itself under this severe pressure, will undoubtedly be felt by us as an additional incentive to apply ourselves with the utmost diligence to the consideration of such measures as may tend to alleviate the present distress, and to prevent, as far as possible, the renewal of similar embarrassments: and nothing can afford us a higher gratification, than to find ourselves enabled to adopt such regulations as may give effect to your Majesty's gracious and benevolent views for the relief and advantage of your people, on a subject so peculiarly interesting to their welfare.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

Gentlemen,

I THANK you for this very loyal and dutiful address.

It affords me the greatest satisfaction to learn, that you concur in the view which I entertain of the general situation and prospect of affairs, and to receive the assurances of your

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firm and decided support in those exertions which are most likely to ensure and accelerate the restoration of peace, on such grounds as the justice of our cause, and the situation of the enemy, may entitle us to expect.

Nothing shall be omitted, on my part, to make an effectual use of the means which you may put into my hands, for a purpose so important to the permanent interests and happiness of my people.

Joint Address of both Houses to his Majesty, Oct. 31, 1795.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lords spiritual and temporal, and Commons, in Parliament assembled, beg leave to approach your Majesty, humbly to express to your Majesty our indignation and abhorrence at the daring outrages offered to your Majesty in your Majesty's passage to and from your Parliament. We cannot reflect, without the utmost concern, that there should be found, within your Majesty's dominions, any persons so insensible of the happiness which all your Majesty's subjects derive from your Majesty's just and mild government, and of the virtues which so eminently distinguish your Majesty's character, as to be capable of these flagitious acts: and we beg leave humbly to lay before your Majesty the earnest wishes of your faithful Lords and Commons, in which we are confident we shall be joined by all descriptions of your Majesty's subjects, that you will be graciously pleased to direct the most effectual measures to be taken, without delay, to discover the authors and abettors of crimes so atrocious.

His Majesty's most gracious Answer.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I RECEIVE, with great pleasure, this additional proof of your uniform zeal and loyalty. I have too much reason to be assured of the affectionate and steady attachment of my people at large, to have felt any other sentiment upon this occasion than that of concern at so high a violation of the laws. I shall not fail to give such directions as may best tend to bring to justice and punishment the persons concerned in an offence so dangerous to the public tranquillity, and so injurious to our excellent constitution.

Message

Message from his Majesty, Dec. 7, 1795.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty thinks proper to inform his faithful Commons, that a considerable sum is likely to arise from the sale of prizes taken from the United Provinces of Holland, and that he has ordered the amount to be ascertained, and the overplus, after the claims of the captors had been discharged, to be applied to the public service. G. R.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Dec. 7, 1795,

THAT an humble address be presented to his Majesty, thanking him for his tender concern in manifesting to the House his desire of applying the said money to the public service, after defraying the claims of the captors; and that such of the members as were of his Majesty's most honourable privy council should present the same.

Message from his Majesty to both Houses, Dec. 8, 1795.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty, relying on the assurances which he has received from his faithful Commons, of their determination to support his Majesty in those exertions which are necessary under the present circumstances, recommends it to this House to consider of making provision towards enabling his Majesty to defray any extraordinary expences which may be incurred for the service of the ensuing year, and to take such measures as the exigencies of affairs may require. His Majesty, on this occasion, thinks proper to acquaint the House, that the crisis which was depending at the commencement of the present session, has led to such an order of things in France, as will induce his Majesty, conformably to the sentiments which he has already declared, to meet any disposition for negotiation on the part of the enemy, and with an earnest desire to give it the fullest and speediest effect, and to conclude a treaty for a general peace, whenever it can be effected on just and suitable terms for himself and his allies.

It is his Majesty's earnest wish, that the spirit and determination manifested by Parliament, added to the recent and important successes of the Austrian armies, and to the continued and growing embarrassments of the enemy, may speedily conduce

conduce to the attainment of this object, on such grounds as the justice of the cause in which this country is engaged, and the situation of affairs may entitle his Majesty to expect.

G. R.

Resolved by the House of Commons, Dec. 9, 1795.

TO acknowledge, with the utmost gratitude and satisfaction, his Majesty's condescension and goodness, in having been graciously pleased to acquaint us, that the crisis which was depending at the commencement of the session, has led to such an order of things in France, as will induce his Majesty, conformably to the sentiments he had already declared, to meet any disposition for negotiation on the part of the enemy, with an earnest desire to give it the fullest and speediest effect, and to conclude a treaty of general peace whenever it can be effected on just and suitable terms for himself and his allies.

To assure his Majesty, that until that desirable period shall arrive, it is our firm determination to continue to afford his Majesty that vigorous support which we are persuaded is essential to the most important interests of his kingdom, and that it will yield us the highest gratification if his Majesty's powerful preparations and exertions, added to the recent and important successes of the Austrian armies, and to the continued and growing embarrassments of the enemy, should have the happy effect of speedily conducing to the restoration of general peace on such grounds as the justice of the cause in which this country is engaged, and the situation of affairs may entitle his Majesty to expect.

An Address, in answer to his Majesty's Message, was moved in the House of Lords, similar to the Address that had been moved in the House of Commons.

Message from his Majesty to both Houses, Dec. 8, 1795.

GEORGE REX.

HIS Majesty thinks proper to acquaint the House of Commons, that a considerable division of ships, having on board foreign troops in the service of Great Britain, having been dispersed and damaged while on their passage from the rivers Elbe and Weser to Spithead, the place of rendezvous appointed for the convoy under which it was intended they should be sent on distant foreign service, his Majesty has found it unavoidably necessary to order the said troops to be disembarked, and to be stationed in barracks near Southampton,

and

and in the Isle of Wight; and at the same time has given directions that they shall be re-embarked, and sent to the place of their destination, as soon as the transports necessary for their accommodation and conveyance shall be in readiness to receive them, the necessary orders for that purpose having, by his Majesty's command, been already given. G. R.

A similar message was sent to the House of Lords.

His Majesty's most gracious Speech, May 19, 1796.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

THE public business being now concluded, I think it proper to close this session, and, at the same time, to acquaint you with my intention of giving immediate directions for calling a new Parliament.

The objects which have engaged your attention during the present session have been of peculiar importance; and the measures which you have adopted, have manifested your continued regard to the safety and welfare of my people.

The happiest effects have been experienced from the provisions which you have made for repressing sedition and civil tumult, and for restraining the progress of principles subversive of all established government.

The difficulties arising to my subjects from the high price of corn, have formed a principal object of your deliberation; and your assiduity in investigating that subject has strongly proved your anxious desire to omit nothing which could tend to the relief of my people in a matter of such general concern. I have the greatest satisfaction in observing, that the pressure of those difficulties is in a great degree removed.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I must, in a more particular manner, return you my thanks for the liberal supplies which you have granted to meet the exigencies of the war. While I regret the extent of those demands which the present circumstances necessarily occasion, it is a great consolation to me, to observe the increasing resources by which the country is enabled to support them. These resources are particularly manifested in the state of the different branches of the revenue, in the continued and progressive state of our navigation and commerce, in the steps which have been taken for maintaining and improving the public credit, and in the additional provision which has been made for the reduction of the national debt.

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My Lords and Gentlemen,

I ſhall ever reflect with heartfelt ſatisfaction on the uniform wiſdom, temper, and firmneſs, which have appeared in all your proceedings ſince I firſt met you in this place. Called to deliberate on the public affairs of your country in a period of foreign and domeſtic tranquillity, you had the happineſs of contributing to raiſe this kingdom to a ſtate of unexampled proſperity. You were ſuddenly compelled to relinquiſh the full advantages of this ſituation, in order to reſiſt the unprovoked aggreſſion of an enemy whoſe hoſtility was directed againſt all civil ſociety, but more particularly againſt the happy union of order and liberty eſtabliſhed in theſe kingdoms. The nature of the ſyſtem introduced into France, afforded to that country, in the midſt of its calamities, the means of exertion beyond the experience of any former time. Under the preſſure of the new and unprecedented difficulties ariſing from ſuch a conteſt, you have ſhewn yourſelves worthy of all the bleſſings that you inherit. By your counſels and conduct, the conſtitution has been preſerved inviolate againſt the deſigns of foreign and domeſtic enemies; the honour of the Britiſh name has been aſſerted; the rank and ſtation which we have hitherto held in Europe has been maintained; and the decided ſuperiority of our naval power has been eſtabliſhed in every quarter of the world.

You have omitted no opportunity to prove your juſt anxiety for the re-eſtabliſhment of general peace on ſecure and honourable terms; but you have, at the ſame time, rendered it manifeſt to the world, that while our enemies ſhall perſiſt in diſpoſitions incompatible with that object, neither the reſources nor the ſpirit of Engliſhmen will be wanting to the ſupport of a juſt cauſe, and to the defence of all their deareſt intereſts.

A due ſenſe of this conduct is deeply impreſſed on my heart. I truſt, that all my ſubjects are animated with the ſame ſentiment, and that their loyalty and public ſpirit will enſure the continuance of that union and mutual confidence between me and my Parliament, which beſt promote the true dignity and glory of my crown, and the genuine happineſs of my people,

REMEMBRANCES:

OR, A

Complete Collection

OF THE

STANDING ORDERS

OF THE

HOUSE of LORDS

IN

ENGLAND.

EXTRACTED FROM AND COMPARED WITH THE

JOURNALS OF THE SAID HOUSE.

REMEMBRANCES

FOR

ORDER AND DECENCY,

To be kept in the Upper House of Parliament, by the Lords, when his Majesty is not there, leaving the Solemnity belonging to his Majesty's Coming, to be marshalled by those Lords to whom it more properly appertains.

I. FIRST, therefore, the Lords are to sit in the same order as is prescribed by the act of Parliament, except that the Lord Chancellor sitteth on the woolsack, as Speaker to the House.

II. The Lord Chancellor, when he speaks to the House, is always to speak uncovered, and is not to adjourn the House, or do any thing else as mouth of the House, without the consent of the Lords first had; excepting the ordinary thing about bills, which are of course, wherein the Lords may likewise over-rule, as for preferring one bill before another, and such like. And in case of difference among the Lords, it is to be put to the question: and if the Lord Chancellor will speak to any thing particularly, he is to go to his own place, as a Peer.

Die Sabbati, 9 Junii, 1660.

III. Ordered by the Lords in Parliament assembled, That it is the duty of the Lord Chancellor, or the Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, ordinarily to attend the Lords House of Parliament: and that in case the Lord Chancellor, or Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, be absent from the House of Peers, and that there be none authorised under the Great Seal from the King to supply that place in the House of Peers, the Lords may then chuse their own Speaker during that vacancy.

IV. The Judges and ſuch of the King's privy council (as are called by writ to attend) ſitting by, are not to be covered until the Lords give them leave, which they ordinarily ſignify by the Lord Chancellor; and they being there appointed to attend the Houſe, are not to ſpeak, or deliver any opinion, until it be required, and they be admitted ſo to do by the major part of the Houſe, in caſe of difference.

V. The learned counſel, &c. are likewiſe to attend on the woolſacks, but are never covered.

VI. Thoſe of his Majeſty's privy council who are, or ſhall be called by his Majeſty's writ, as the Judges are, are to be uſed with the ſame reſpect the Judges are, which is not to be covered until they ſhall be admitted ſo to do by the Lords.

VII. After the iſſuing the writ of ſummons, if the Parliament be prorogued to any further day than was appointed for the meeting thereof by the writ of ſummons, it is done by writ, which is directed to both the Houſes; and in that caſe the Lower Houſe is to be called in, and to ſtand uncovered below the bar, but not before the Lords be all ſet; who ſitting, and being all covered, the Lord Chancellor uſes ſome words unto them, to let them know the cauſe of their meeting, which he doth uncovered, in reſpect he ſpeaks to the Lords as well as the Commons; and after the writ read, the Parliament is accordingly prorogued. But when the Parliament is prorogued at any time after the firſt meeting thereof, ſuch prorogation is not to be by writ, but by commiſſion directed unto ſome of the Lords of the Upper Houſe, and the Lord Chancellor firſt acquainting the Houſe with the purport of ſuch commiſſion, the Lords authoriſed thereby, or ſo many of them as are neceſſary, being in their robes and ſeated on a form placed between the throne and the woolſack, are to command the Uſher of the Black Rod to let the Commons know the Lords Commiſſioners deſire their immediate attendance in the Houſe of Peers, to hear the commiſſion read: and the Commons being come up to the bar of this Houſe, and ſtanding uncovered, the commiſſion is to be read by the clerk; after which the Parliament is to be prorogued in ſuch manner, and to ſuch time, as is commanded by the ſaid commiſſion.

VIII. At the beginning of a Parliament, after prayers ſaid, and the Lord Chancellor ſhall have taken the oaths appointed to be taken in lieu of the abrogated oaths of ſupremacy and allegiance, and made, repeated, and ſubſcribed the declaration, and taken and ſubſcribed the oath of abjuration according to the ſeveral acts of Parliament made for thoſe purpoſes; the

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certificate of the clerk of the crown, of the return of the ſixteen Peers, who, for that part of Great Britain called Scotland, ſhall be choſen, ſummoned, and certified to ſit and vote in the Houſe of Peers in the Parliament of Great Britain, ſhall be read; and then all the Peers and Lords of Parliament preſent ſhall, in like manner, take, make, and ſubſcribe, the ſaid oaths and declaration; after which, ſome bill *(pro forma)* is to be read: which being done, the Lord Chancellor is to report his Majeſty's ſpeech from the throne, and then the committee of privileges is to be appointed. And at the beginning of every other ſeſſion, during the ſame Parliament, after prayers ſaid, ſome bill *(pro forma)* is to be read, his Majeſty's ſpeech reported, and the committee of privileges appointed.

IX. Every Lord that comes after prayers, if he be a Baron or Biſhop, is to pay one ſhilling; and if he be of any degree above, two ſhillings to the poor: but every Lord who comes not at all, and makes not his juſt excuſe, is to pay five ſhillings for every day's abſence.

X. Before the Houſe ſit, ſo much reſpect is to be had to that room as none but members of the Houſe ought to be covered there, not ſo much as the eldeſt ſon of any Peer whatſoever, unleſs he be called by writ: neither is any other perſon to ſtay there, or any attendant of any nobleman, but whilſt he brings in his Lord, and then he is to retire himſelf.

XI. When the Houſe is ſat, every Lord that ſhall enter is to give and receive ſalutations from the reſt, and not to ſit down in his place, unleſs he hath made an obeiſance to the cloth of eſtate.

XII. If there be any difference in the form or ſtyle of the writs from the ancient, it is to be examined how it came to paſs.

XIII. The Lords of the Upper Houſe are to keep their dignity and order in ſitting, as much as may be, and not remove out of their places without juſt cauſe, to the hinderance of others that ſit near them, and diſorder of the Houſe: but when they muſt needs go croſs the Houſe, from one ſide to the other, they are to make obeiſance to the cloth of eſtate.

XIV. When any Lords ſpeak, they addreſs their ſpeech to the reſt of the Lords in general.

XV. To prevent miſunderſtanding, and for avoiding of offenſive ſpeeches, when matters are debating either in the

House or at committees, it is, for honour sake, thought fit, and so ordered, That all personal, sharp, or taxing speeches be forborn; and whosoever answereth another man's speech shall apply his answer to the matter without wrong to the person: and as nothing offensive is to be spoken, so nothing is to be ill taken, if the party that speaks it shall presently make a fair exposition or clear denial of the words that might bear any ill construction. And if any offence be given in that kind, as the House itself will be very sensible thereof, so it will sharply censure the offender, and give the party offended a fit reparation, and a full satisfaction.—*Per Ord.* 12 & 13 *Junii*, 1626.

Die Lunæ, 9 Augusti, 1641. Post Meridiem.

XVI. It is this day ordered, by the Lords in Parliament, for avoiding of all mistakes, unkindnesses, or other differences, which may grow to quarrels tending to the breach of peace; That if any Lord shall conceive himself to have received any affront or injury from any other member of the House, either in the Parliament House, or at any committee, or in any of the rooms belonging to the Lords House of Parliament, he shall appeal to the Lords in Parliament for his reparation; which if he shall not do, but occasion or entertain quarrels, declining the justice of the House, then the Lord that shall be found therein delinquent shall undergo the severe censure of the House of Parliament. And this order is to be added to the standing orders of this House.

Die Veneris, 9 Januarii, 1673.

XVII. It is this day ordered and declared, by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That when a question hath been entirely put by the Speaker, no Lord is to speak against the question before voting. And it is further ordered, That this rule be entered into the roll of the standing orders of this House.

Die Mercurii, 30 Martii, 1670.

XVIII. Ordered, That if any Lord have occasion to speak with another Lord in this House, while the House is sitting, they are to go together below the bar, or else the Speaker is to stop the business in agitation. And that this order be annexed to the roll of the standing orders of this House.

XIX. No Lord is to speak twice to any bill at one time of reading it, or any other proposition, unless it be to explain himself in some material point of his speech, but to no new

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matter; and that not without the leave of the Houſe firſt obtained. Every Lord ſpeaks ſtanding and uncovered, and names not members of the Houſe commonly by their names, but the Lord that ſpake laſt, laſt but one, laſt but two, &c. or ſome other note of diſtinction.

XX. In voting, the loweſt, after the queſtion is put by the Lord Chancellor, begins firſt, and every Lord in his turn riſes uncovered, and only ſays, Content, or Not Content.

Die Lunæ, 13 Martii, 1670.

XXI. Ordered, That after a queſtion is put, and the Houſe hath voted thereupon, no Lord is to depart out of his place, unleſs upon a diviſion of the Houſe, until the Houſe have entered on ſome other buſineſs. And that this order be added to the roll of the ſtanding orders of this Houſe.

Die Mercurii, 25 Novembris, 1691.

XXII. Reſolved upon the queſtion, that for the future, when there ſhall be a diviſion in the Houſe upon any queſtion, the contents ſhall go below the bar, and the not contents ſtay within the bar. And it is ordered, That this reſolution be added to the roll of ſtanding orders of this Houſe.

XXIII. Bills are ſeldom oppoſed at the firſt reading, and are commonly committed upon motion, at the ſecond reading.

Die Martis, 5 Maii, 1668.

XXIV. Upon report made by the Lord Chamberlain, from the committee of the whole Houſe, concerning the bill for raiſing three hundred and ten thouſand pounds, by an impoſition on wines and other liquors; that in regard the ſaid bill being very long, and conſiſting of many paragraphs, came from the Houſe of Commons, ſo near the time of adjournment, he was commanded to report it, as the opinion of the committee, that it might be entered into the journal book of this Houſe, that there may be no ſuch argument hereafter uſed in this Houſe, as was upon this bill (of ſhortneſs of time for the paſſing of bills) to precipitate the paſſing thereof; but that due conſideration may be had hereafter, according to the courſe of Parliaments. The Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, agreed with the report made from the committee, and ordered, That this order be entered on the roll of the ſtanding orders of this Houſe.

Die Mercurii, 9 Dec. 1702.

XXV. Ordered and declared, that the annexing any claufe, or claufes, to a bill of aid, or fupply, the matter of which is foreign to, and different from the matter of the faid bill of aid, or fupply, is unparliamentary, and tends to the deftruction of the conftitution of this government. And it is further ordered, That this order and declaration be added to the roll of ftanding orders.

Die Martis, 28 Junii, 1715.

XXVI. Ordered and declared, That for the future, no bill fhall be read twice the fame day. That no committee of the whole Houfe proceed on any bill the fame day the bill is committed. That no report be received from any committee of the whole Houfe the fame day fuch committee goes through the bill, when any amendments are made to fuch bill. And that no bill be read the third time, the fame day reported from the committee.

XXVII. It is to be obferved, that the firft or fecond day the Houfe be called, and notice to be taken of fuch Lords, as either have not fent their proxies, or are excufed by his Majefty, for fome time.

XXVIII. To have more freedom of fpeech, and that arguments may be ufed *(pro & contra)* committees are appointed fometimes for bills, fometimes to facilitate and agree of great bufinefs, either of the whole Houfe, or of particulars. Committees of the whole Houfe fit in the Upper Houfe, but then the Lord Chancellor fits not upon the woolfack, as a fpeaker.

XXIX. Every Lord is to fit in his due place, when the Houfe is put into a committee.—*Per Ordinem, 9 Maii 1626.*

XXX. If it fhall be defired by any Lord, That the Houfe may be put into a committee, it ought not to be refufed.—*Per Ordinem ibidem.*

Die Jovis, 10 Junii, 1714.

XXXI. Ordered and declared, That when the Houfe fhall be put into a committee of the whole Houfe, the Houfe be not refumed without the unanimous confent of the committee, unlefs upon a queftion put by the Lord who fhall be in the chair of fuch committee.—*Ent. Per Ordinem, 28 Junii, 1715.*

XXXII. If they be a felect committee, they ufually meet in one of the rooms adjoining to the Upper Houfe, as the Lords like. Any of the Lords of the committee fpeak to the reft uncovered, but may fit ftill, if he pleafe. The commit-

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tees are to be attended by such judges, or learned counsel, as are appointed. They are not to sit there, or be covered, unless it be out of favour for infirmity; some judges sometimes hath a stool set behind, but never covers, and the rest never sit or cover. The Lord Chief Justice Popham did often attend committees, and though he were chief justice, privy counsellor, and infirm, yet would he very hardly ever be persuaded to sit down, saying, it was his duty to stand and attend, and desired the Lords to keep those forms which were their due.

XXXIII. Here it is to be observed, That at any committee of our own, any member of our House, though not of the committee, is not excluded from coming in, and speaking; but he must not vote: as also, he shall give place to all that are of the committee, though of lower degree, and shall sit behind them, and observe the same order, for sitting at a conference, with the Commons.

Die Sabbati, 5 Aprilis, 170[illegible].

XXXIV. Ordered, That on all reports made, from Committees of amendments to bills, for the future, the Lord that makes the report, do explain to the House, the effect and coherence of each amendment; and that, on the clerk's second reading of the same amendments, the Lord on the woolsack do the same. And this to be added to the roll of standing orders.

XXXV. For our meeting with any of the Lower House, it is either upon occasion of messages, which they send up unto us, or upon conference; when they come up unto us, the manner is thus: after we have notice given us by our usher, that they have sent unto us, they attend, till we have put that business to some end wherein we are; and then we (sitting all covered) send for them in, who stand all at the lowest end of the room; and then the Lord Chancellor (with such as please) riseth, and goeth down to the middle of the bar: then the chief of the committee in the midst, and the rest about him, come up to the bar, with three courtesies, and deliver the message to him; who, after he hath received it, retires himself to his former place, and the House being cleared and settled, he reports it to the Lords, who do help his memory, if any thing be mistaken; and after the Lords have taken resolution, (if the business require any answer) they are either called for in, and approaching to the bar, with three courtesies (as before); and the House sitting in order, and covered (as before) the Lord Chancellor sitting upon the woolsack covered, doth give them their answer, in the name of the House; or else, if the resolution be not so speedy, we send them word by the usher,

 that

that they shall not need to stay for the answer, but we will send it by some express messengers of our own.

XXXVI. Here it is to be noted, that we never send to the Lower House, by any members of our own, but either by some of the learned counsel, masters of the chancery, or such like, which attend us, and, in weighty causes, some of the Judges; but the Lower House never send unto us any but of their own body.

XXXVII. The place of our meeting with the Lower House, upon conference, is usually the painted chamber, where they are commonly before we come, and expect our leisure. We are to come in thither, in a whole body, and not some Lords scattering before the rest, which both takes from the gravity of the Lords, and besides may hinder the Lords from taking their proper places. We are to sit there, and be covered; but they are at no committee, or conference, ever either to be covered, or sit down in our presence, unless it be some infirm person, and that by connivance, in a corner, out of sight, to sit, but not to be covered.

XXXVIII. None are to speak at a conference with the Lower House but those that be of the committee; and when any thing from such conference is reported, all the Lords of that committee are to stand up.

XXXIX. No man is to enter, at any committee, or conference (unless it be such as are commanded to attend) but such as are members of the House, or the heir apparent of a Lord, who has a right to succeed such Lord, or the eldest son of any Peer, who has a right to sit and vote in this House, upon pain of being punished severely, with example to others.

Die Sabbati, 5 Aprilis, 1707.

XL. Upon consideration of the report from the Lords committees for privileges, to whom it was referred, to consider of methods, or orders to prevent the irregularities that often happen in this House: it is ordered, That for the future, none but a Lord, or heir apparent of a Lord, who has a right to succeed such Lord in his place, in this House, or such others as have right to attend in the House, as assistants, shall be in any part of the House, during the sitting of the House. And this to be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Lunæ, 14 Novembris, 1707.

XLI. The Earl of Rochester reported, from the Lords committees appointed to prepare an order, pursuant to the debate

bate of this Houſe, of the one and twentieth inſtant, relating to the ſons of Peers being in this Houſe, when ſitting, the order following, which was read, and agreed to by the Houſe, viz.

That upon conſideration of the order of the fifth of April, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeven, and the articles of union; it is this day ordered, That the eldeſt ſons of all the Peers, who have a right to ſit and vote in this Houſe, have the ſame rights and privileges.—*Ent. per Ord.* 26 *Januarii,* 1703.

Die Lunæ, 14 *Februarii,* 1703.

XLII. The Houſe taking notice, that of late the door-keepers have frequently preſumed to come within the doors when the Houſe is ſitting, contrary to the rules and orders of the Houſe; it is this day ordered, That for the future, no door-keeper, or door-keepers, attending this Houſe, do preſume to come or ſtay within the doors of this Houſe, when ſitting (except particularly ordered ſo to do.) And this to be added to the roll of ſtanding orders.

XLIII. Ordered, None but noblemen, and the neceſſary attendants of the Houſe, to come into the lobby, nor the little committee chamber.—*Per Ord.* 23 *Maii,* 1628, *Poſt.*

XLIV. It would be reſolved, what privilege noblemen and peers have, betwixt which this difference is to be obſerved, That Biſhops are only Lords of Parliament, but not Peers; for they are not of trial by nobility: but all Lords of Parliament having privilege for their ſervants, from arreſts, it is to be known for what time before and after the ſeſſion; as likewiſe, whether it reach to retainers.

XLV. The clerk is to enter no order, until the Lord-keeper firſt demand the aſſent of the Houſe. *Vid. per Lib.* 14 *Decem.* 1621, & 23 *Februarii,* 1623. And the clerk is to read every order firſt in the Houſe, before it be entered. *Vid. Lib.* 20 *Maii,* 1626.

XLVI. Whereas this high court of the Upper Houſe of Parliament, do often find cauſe in their judicature, to impoſe fines, amongſt other puniſhments, upon offenders, for the good example of juſtice, and to deter others from like offences; it is ordered and declared, that at the leaſt once, before the end of every ſeſſion, the committees, for the orders of the Houſe and privileges of the Lords of Parliament, do acquaint the Lords with all the fines that have been laid that ſeſſion, that thereupon their Lordſhips may uſe that power, which they juſtly

have

have, to take off, or mitigate such fines, either wholly or in part, according to the measure of penitence, or ability, in the offenders, or suffer all to stand, as in equity their Lordships shall find fit.

And that until every session be ended, no extreat is to be made of such fines, set or imposed by Parliament, nor any copy thereof to be made by the clerk, without special order, upon public motion, in a full House.—*Per Ord.* 3 *Aprilis*, 1624.

For the Trials of such Persons as shall be brought before the Lords, and come to Judicature.

XLVII. As this court is the highest, from whence others ought to draw their light, so the proceeding thereof should be most clear, and equal, as well on the one side, in finding out offences, where there is just ground, as on the other side, in affording all just means of defence to such as shall be questioned. And therefore in all cases of moment, the defendants shall have copies of all depositions, both *pro et contra*, after publication, a convenient time before the hearing, to prepare themselves. And also, if the defendants shall demand it of the House, in due time, they shall have their learned counsel to assist them in their defence, whether they be able, by reason of health, to answer in person, or not, so as they chuse counsel void of just exception; and if such counsel shall refuse them, they are to be assigned, as the court shall think fit. This their Lordships do, because, in all causes, as well civil, as criminal and capital, they hold, that all lawful helps cannot, before just judges, make one that is guilty avoid justice; and on the other side, God defend that an innocent should be condemned.

XLVIII. As for the calling a member of this high court to the bar, their Lordships hold it fit, to be very well weighed at what time, and for what causes it shall be.—*Per Ord.* 28 *Maii*, 1624.

XLIX. The privilege of the House is, That no Lord of Parliament, sitting the Parliament, or within the usual times of privilege of Parliament, is to be imprisoned or restrained, without sentence or order of the House, unless it be for treason, or felony, or for refusing to give security for the peace.—*Per Ord.* 18 *Aprilis*, 1626.

Die Martis, 20 *Januarii*, 1673.

L. Upon report made this day, from the Lords committees, appointed to consider of the privileges of the peers of this realm, and

and orders and customs of the Lords House of Parliament, &c. to whom was referred the examining of what hath been the practice in former times, in cases of Lords desiring leave to appear and and answer accusations in the House of Commons; that their Lordships have searched and perused several precedents, and thereupon conceive, that it may deeply intrench into the privileges of this House, for any Lord of the House to answer an accusation in the House of Commons, either in person, or by sending his answer in writing, or by his counsel there: upon serious consideration had whereof, and perusal of the said precedents in this House, it is ordered, That for the future no Lord shall either go down to the House of Commons, or send his answer in writing, or appear by counsel, to answer any accusation there, upon penalty of being committed to the black rod, or to the tower, during the pleasure of this House. And it is further ordered, That this order be added to the roll of standing orders of this House, that the Lords may the better take notice of the same.

Die Mercurii, 25 Novembris, 1696.

LI. Ordered, That no Lord of this House shall go into the House of Commons, whilst the House, or any committee of the whole House is sitting there, without the leave of this House first had. And this to be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Martis, 14 Januarii, 1689.

LII. Whereas this day was appointed for taking into consideration the report made the tenth day of this instant January, from the Lords committees for privileges, concerning the trials of Peers, after due consideration had thereof; it is resolved by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, that it is the antient right of the Peers of England, to be tried only in full Parliament for any capital offences. And it is ordered, That this resolution be added to the roll of standing orders of this House.

Die Veneris, 17 Januarii 1689.

LIII. It is declared by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That the order made the fourteenth of this instant January, concerning the trial of Peers in Parliament, shall not be understood, or construed to extend to any appeal of murder, or other felony, to be brought against any Peer or Peers. And it is ordered, That this declaration be entered on the roll of standing orders of this House.

Die

Die Veneris, 13 *Decembris*, 1661.

LIV. Forasmuch as upon writs of error, returnable in this high court of Parliament, the plaintiffs therein often desire to delay justice, rather than come to the determination of the right of the cause; it is therefore ordered, That the plaintiffs, in all such writs, after the same, and the records be brought in, shall speedily repair to the clerk of the Parliaments, and prosecute their writs of error, and satisfy the officers of this House their fees justly due unto them, by reason of the prosecution of the said writs of error, and the proceedings thereupon; and further, shall assign their errors within eight days after the bringing in of such writs, with the records. And if the plaintiff make default so to do, then the said clerk, if the defendant in such writs require it, shall record, That the plaintiff hath not prosecuted his writ of error; and that the House doth therefore award, that such plaintiff shall lose his writ, and that the defendant shall go without day, and that the record be remitted. And if any plaintiff, in any writ of error, shall alledge a diminution, and pray a *certiorari*, the clerk shall enter an award thereof accordingly, and the plaintiff may before in *nullo est erratum* pleaded, sue forth the writ of *certiorari* in ordinary course, without special petition, or motion to this House for the same. And if he shall not prosecute such writ, and procure it to be returned within ten days next after his plea of diminution put into this House, then unless he shall shew some good cause to this House for the enlarging of the time for the return of such writ, he shall lose the benefit of the same. And the defendant, in the writ of error, may proceed, as if no such writ of *certiorari* were awarded.—*Ent. per Ord.* 9 *Dec.* 1670.

Die Sabbati, 13 *Julii*, 1678.

LV. Ordered, That all persons who shall be desirous to exhibit to this House, any petitions of appeal from any court of equity, do present their petitions within fourteen days, to be accounted from and after the first day of every session or meeting of Parliament after a recess; after which time the Lords do declare they will, during every such sitting, receive no petition of appeal, unless upon a decree made whilst the Parliament is actually sitting; in which case, the party who shall find himself aggrieved may bring his petition of appeal, provided he present it to this House, within fourteen days after such decree is made and entered in any court of equity in England or Wales, twenty days in any of the courts in Scotland, and forty days in any of the courts of equity in Ireland. And that this order be added to the standing orders of the House of

Peers,

Peers, and likewise published in print, to the end that all persons concerned, may take notice thereof, and observe it accordingly.

Die Lunæ, 7 Decembris, 1697.

LVI. Ordered, That for the future, upon giving judgment in any cases of appeals or writs of error in this House, the question shall be put for reversing, and not for affirming. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Jovis, 14 Februarii, 1694.

LVII. Ordered, That no petition, which relates to the rehearing of any cause or part of a cause, formerly heard in this House, shall be read the same day that it is offered, but shall lie upon the table, and a future day be appointed for reading thereof, after twelve of the clock. And this order be added to the roll of standing orders of this House.

Die Jovis, 3 Martii, 1697.

LVIII. Whereas, by the rules and orders of this House, for preventing the bringing of frivolous appeals, all appeals are to be signed by two counsel: it is this day ordered, That no person whatsoever do presume, as counsel, to sign any appeal to be brought into this House, for the future, unless such person hath been of counsel in the same cause, in the courts below, or shall attend, as counsel, at the bar of this House, when the said appeal shall come in to be heard. And it is further ordered, That this order shall be added to the roll of standing orders, and affixed on the doors of this House, and the courts in Westminster Hall.

Die Martis, 19 Aprilis, 1698.

LIX. The House taking notice, that upon appeals and writs of error, there has been of late several scandalous and frivolous printed cases delivered to Lords of this House; for preventing whereof for the future, it is this day ordered, That no person whatsoever do presume to deliver any printed case, or cases, to any Lord of this House, unless such case, or cases, shall be signed by one or more of the counsel who attended at the hearing of the cause in the courts below, or shall be of counsel at the hearing in this House. And this order to be added to the roll of standing orders, and affixed on the doors of this House, and the courts in Westminster Hall.

Die Mercurii, 22 Decembris, 1703.

LX. Upon consideration of the great inconveniences arising, by motions and petitions for putting off causes, after days have been appointed for hearing thereof; it is ordered, That when

a day ſhall be appointed for the hearing any cauſe, appeal, or writ of error argued in this Houſe, the ſame ſhall not be altered, but upon petition; and that no petition ſhall in ſuch caſe be received, unleſs two days notice thereof be given to the adverſe party; of which notice oath ſhall be made at the bar of this Houſe. And it is further ordered, That this order be added to the roll of ſtanding orders.

Die Veneris, 26 *Januarii*, 1710.

LXI. Whereas, by order of the twentieth of November, one thouſand ſix hundred and eighty, it is directed, that in all caſes, upon appeals to be brought into this Houſe, from the courts in Weſtminſter Hall, the party or parties appellants, ſhall, before any anſwer to his or their petition, give ſecurity to the clerk of the Parliaments, by recognizance, to be entered into to his Majeſty in one hundred pounds, to pay ſuch coſts to the defendant or defendants in ſuch appeals, as this court ſhall appoint, in caſe the decree or judgment appealed from ſhall be affirmed by this court. It is this day ordered, That in all caſes of appeals to be brought into this Houſe from any court in Weſtminſter Hall, from any court of equity in England or Wales, from any court in Scotland, or from any of the courts of equity in Ireland, the party or parties appellants ſhall within eight days after ſuch appeal received, give ſecurity to the clerk of the Parliaments, by recognizance to be entered into to his Majeſty, or the penalty of two hundred pounds, conditioned to pay ſuch coſts to the defendant or defendants in ſuch appeals, as this court ſhall appoint, in caſe the decree or judgment appealed from ſhall be affirmed. And if the appellant or appellants ſhall neglect or refuſe to give ſuch ſecurity within the time aforeſaid, That then the clerk of the Parliaments ſhall inform the Houſe thereof, and the appeal from thenceforth to be diſmiſſed.—*Ent. per Ord.* 27 *Januarii*, 1710.

Die Martis, 28 *Junii* 1715.

LXII. Ordered, That on the days cauſes are appointed to be heard, the cauſe to be called in preciſely at eleven o'clock, and no other buſineſs to intervene.

Die Sabbati, 13 *Junii*, 1685.

LXIII. Ordered, That for the future, neither his Majeſty's attorney general, nor any aſſiſtants to this Houſe, ſhall be allowed to be of counſel at the bar of this Houſe, for any private perſon or perſons whatſoever. And it is further ordered, That this order be added to the roll of ſtanding orders of this Houſe.

Die

Die Sabbati, 5 Aprilis, 1707.

LXIV. Ordered, That if any Lord, at the hearing of a cauſe, be not on one of the benches, the Lord Chancellor ſhall ſtop proceedings, until ſuch Lord take his place on one of the ſaid benches.—*Ent. per Ord.* 28 *Junii*, 1715.

How far it is conceived the Privilege of the Nobility doth clearly extend, concerning the Freedom of their Servants and Followers from Arreſts.

LXV. To all their menial ſervants, and thoſe of their family, and alſo thoſe employed neceſſarily and properly about their eſtates, as well as their perſons.

This freedom to begin twenty days before the return of the writ of ſummons, in the beginning of every ſeſſion of Parliament, and to continue twenty days before and after every ſeſſion of Parliament, except in ſuch caſes wherein other proviſion hath been made, by an act of Parliament paſſed in the twelfth and thirteenth year of the reign of his late Majeſty King William the Third, intituled An act for preventing any inconveniencies that may happen by privilege of Parliament.

All the Lords are to be very careful in this point, and remember the ground of this privilege, which was only in reſpect they ſhould not be diſtracted, by the trouble of their ſervants, from attending the ſerious affairs of the kingdom; and that, therefore, they will not pervert that privilege to the public injuſtice of the kingdom, which was given them only that the whole realm might, in this high court, draw the clearer light of juſtice from them; in which caſe every one ought rather to go far within, than any way exceed the due limits.

Before any perſon be ſent for, upon this account, the Lord concerned ſhall either by himſelf, or by his letter, or by ſome meſſage, certify the Houſe, upon his honour, that the perſon arreſted is within the limits of the privilege before expreſſed.

And for the particulars, they muſt be left to the judgment of the Houſe, as the particular caſes ſhall come in queſtion, wherein the Houſe wants not all means, as well by oath as without, to find out the true nature of the ſervant's quality in his Lord's ſervice; and thereupon if by the Houſe it be adjudged contrary to the true intent, any member whatſoever muſt not find it ſtrange, if, in ſuch caſe, both he himſelf ſuffer reproof, as the Houſe ſhall think fit, and his ſervant receive no benefit by the privilege, but pay the fees: whereas the juſtice of the kingdom muſt be preferred before any perſonal reſpect; and none to be ſpared that ſhall offend after ſo fair

fair warning.—*Per Ord.* 28 *Maii*, 1624.—*Emendat.* 22 *Junii*, 1715.

Die Mercurii, 24 *Martii*, 1696-7.

LXVI. Ordered, That no common attorney or solicitor, though employed by any Peer or Lord of this House, shall be allowed privilege of Parliament. And that this order be entered on the roll of standing orders.

Die Martis, 15 *Aprilis*, 1712.

LXVII. It is this day ordered, That all written protections given by any Lord of this House shall be, and are hereby vacated and made void: and that for the future no Lord of this House shall give any written protection to any person whatsoever. And this order to be printed and published, and fixed on the doors of this House and Westminster Hall.—*Ent. per Ord.* 7 *Maii*, 1712.

Die Jovis, 23 *Novembris*, 1693.

LXVIII. It is resolved, and this day ordered, That this House will not receive any petition for protecting their Majesties servants. And that this order be added to the standing orders of this House.

LXIX. Ordered, The goods of privileged persons taken in execution are to be re-delivered and freed, as well as the persons.—*Per Ord.* 8 *Maii*, 1628.

LXX. Ordered, That the nobility of this kingdom, and Lords of the Upper House of Parliament, whether they be plaintiffs or defendants, are of ancient right to answer or be examined in all courts upon protestation of honour only, and not upon the common oath.—*Per Ord.* 6 *Maii*, 1628.

Die Veneris, 30 *Aprilis*, 1675.

LXXI. Ordered, That no oath shall be imposed by any bill, or otherwise, upon the Peers, with a penalty in case of refusal, to lose their places and votes in Parliament, or liberty of debates therein. And that this order be added to the roll of the standing orders of this House.

Die Mercurii, 3 *Julii*, 1678.

LXXII. The Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled do declare, that in all cases wherein it is necessary to examine witnesses *in perpetuam rei memoriam*, it shall not be taken to be a breach of privilege of Parliament to file a bill against a Peer in time of Parliament, and take out usual pro-

cess

cess for that purpose only. And it is ordered, That this declaration be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Lunæ, 14 *Decembris*, 1696.

LXXIII. Ordered, That the filing of an original, or of any bill in equity, without service of any letter or process thereupon, within time of privilege of Parliament, against any Lord of this House, shall not be taken to be a breach of privilege of Parliament. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders of this House.

Die Jovis, 12 *Novembris*, 1685.

LXXIV. The Lord Marquis of Halifax reported, that the Lords committees for privileges, to whom it was referred to consider whether privilege of peerage shall be allowed to any Peer of this House, wherein he is only a trustee, have ordered him to report it as the opinion of that committee, that the privilege of Parliament ought not to be allowed to Peers, in cases wherein they are only trustees; which opinion the House confirmed, and ordered the same to be entered as a standing order of this House.

Die Sabbati, 29 *Aprilis*, 1699.

LXXV. Resolved and declared, That no Peer or Lord of this House hath privilege, whereby any stop or hinderance may, or can be given to the proving the will of any person whatsoever. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders of this House.

Die Martis, 21 *Februarii*, 1692.

LXXVI. Ordered and declared, That privilege of Parliament shall not be allowed to minor Peers, noblewomen, or widows of Peers (saving their right of peerage.) And it is further ordered, That if the widow of any Peer shall be married to any Commoner, she shall not be allowed privilege of peerage. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Lunæ, 27 *Februarii*, 1698.

LXXVII. Resolved, That it is a breach of the privilege of this House for any person whatsoever to print, or publish in print, any thing relating to the proceedings of this House, without the leave of this House. And it is ordered, That this resolution be added to the standing orders, and set on the doors of this House.

Die Jovis, 11 Januarii, 1699.

LXXVIII. Ordered, That in case of complaint, by any Lord of this House, of a breach of privilege, whereupon any person shall be taken into custody, for the future, if the House, upon examination of the matter complained of, shall judge the same to be no breach of privilege, the Lord who made the complaint shall pay the fees and expences of the person so taken into custody. And it is further ordered, That no person shall be taken into custody, upon complaint of a breach of privilege, but upon oath made at the bar of this House.

LXXIX. No Lord of this House shall be capable of receiving above two proxies, nor more to be numbered in any cause voted.—*Per Ord.* 25 *Februarii,* 1625.

All proxies from a spiritual Lord shall be made to a spiritual Lord, and from a temporal Lord to a temporal Lord.—*Per Ord. ibid.*

LXXX. If a Peer having leave of the King to be absent from Parliament, gives his proxy, and afterwards sits again in the House, his coming and sitting again in Parliament doth determine that proxy.—*Per Ord.* 25 *April.* 1626.

LXXXI. If a Peer having leave to be absent, makes his proxy, and returns, he cannot make a new proxy without new leave.—*Per Ord. ibid.*

Die Martis, 11 Junii, 1689.

LXXXII. The clerk of the Parliaments, in pursuance of the order yesterday, shewed several instances where proxies have been used in preliminaries to private causes: it is ordered, That proxies may be used in such preliminary cases, but not in giving judgment. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Martis, 15 Martii, 1697.

LXXXIII. Ordered, That no proxy, for the future, shall be made use of in any judicial cause in this House, although the proceedings be by way of bill. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Lunæ, 11 Februarii, 1694.

LXXXIV. The House this day taking into consideration, whether a Lord voting in the question, and having a proxy, is obliged to give his vote in respect of such proxy; it is or-

dered,

dered, that a Lord having a proxy, and voting in the question, ſuch Lord ought to give a vote for that proxy, in caſe proxies be called for. And it is ordered, That this order be added to the ſtanding orders of this Houſe.

Die Sabbati, 20 *Martii*, 1696.

LXXXV. Ordered, That no proxy entered in the book after prayers ſhall be made uſe of the ſame day, in any queſtion: and that the clerks give an account thereof to the Houſe.—*Ent. per Ord.* 16 *Januarii*, 1702.

The Order concerning the Precedency granted to the Earl of Banbury, before divers other Lords of an ancienter Creation, which is to be read at the Beginning of every Seſſion, viz.

LXXXVI. The Lords in this Parliament having underſtood by the Lords committees for the privileges of the Houſe, That they are clearly of opinion the act of Parliament, 31 Hen. VIII. is moſt ſtrong and plain, for the ſettling the precedency of the Peers, according to their anciенty and times of creation, have, upon full and deliberate hearing, and examining the ſaid act in every part, in open Houſe, adjudged, and do adjudge and declare the ſaid act of 31 Hen. VIII. to be full and direct in the point, to enjoin every Peer, upon new creation, to have place according to the time of his creation and date of his letters patents, and no otherwiſe. And every other ancient Peer to hold his place according to his antiquity and creation, and no otherwiſe, unleſs it be in caſe of ſuch perſons, and in ſuch places, as the ſaid act doth particularly mention. And whereas his Majeſty was pleaſed to ſend a gracious meſſage to this Houſe, to let us know, "That it was never his intention to innovate any thing in that kind, or by that particular creation, to coin any power contrary to law or ancient cuſtom, in matter of placing any one before the other; but that his Majeſty having reſolved to confer that dignity on that noble perſon, at the ſame time with the others then advanced, he being the firſt in quality of them, was conſequently to have had the firſt creation, but being at that time caſually forgotten, and his Majeſty afterwards remembered of him, he did but aſſign him that rank which at firſt was intended, without the leaſt thought of injuring any in the preſent, or ever to do the like in future. As alſo, his Majeſty deſired this might paſs for once in this particular, conſidering how old a man this Lord is, and childleſs, ſo that he may enjoy it during his time, with this aſſurance, that his Majeſty will never more occaſion the like diſpute, but allow degrees to be marſhalled according to the ſtatute in that behalf."

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The Lords do give his Majesty very humble and hearty thanks for his princely care, to satisfy this House of his clear intentions, and are contented (the Lords particularly interested in the precedency, having first given their consents that the said Earl may hold the same place as he now stands entered, for his life only, and that place of precedency not to go to his heirs, with this proviso, that it shall not in the least degree be brought into example, to prejudice the undoubted right of the Peers, according to the full judgment pronounced, and with this solemn protestation, that as his Majesty hath been pleased to promise, he will never, in future, seek to break the precedency settled according to the antiquity of the creation in any sort, so the Lords will never, upon any occasion hereafter, give way to any precedency, though but for life, or temporary, in any point impugning or contradicting this judgment, grounded upon the aforesaid statute, delivered upon so great and sound deliberation and advice, with a general consent, which they have caused to be entered and enrolled, and shall be read at the beginning of every session, in the open House, amongst the orders.—*Per Ord.* 10 *die Aprilis*, 1628.

Die Sabbati, 5 *Martii*, 1641.

LXXXVII. Ordered by the Lords in Parliament, That such Lords as shall make protestation, or enter their dissents, to any votes of this House, as they have a right to do, without asking leave of the House, either with or without their reasons, shall make their said protestation, or give direction to have their dissents entered into the clerk's book, the next sitting day of this House, or else the said protestation or dissent to be void and of none effect.—*Emendat.* 22 *Junii*, 1715.

Die Lunæ, 27 *Julii*, 1663.

LXXXVIII. Upon report from the committee for privileges, concerning the introduction of Lords by descent into the House of Peers, it is resolved by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That all Peers of this realm, by descent, being of the age of one and twenty years, have right to come and sit in the House of Peers, without any introduction.

Resolved, That no such Peers ought to pay any fee, or fees, to any herald, upon their first coming into the House of Peers.

Resolved, That no such Peers may, or shall be introduced into the House of Peers by any herald, or with any ceremony, though they shall desire the same.

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Refolved, That thefe votes be entered and affixed to the general roll of orders of the Houfe of Peers, to prevent all queftions or claims of this kind for the future.

Die Martis, 28 *Junii*, 1715.

LXXXIX. Ordered, That every Peer of this realm, claiming by virtue of a fpecial limitation in remainder, and not claiming by defcent, fhall be introduced.

Die Jovis, 2 *Martii*, 1664.

XC. Upon report from the Lords committees for privileges, that in purfuance of the firft part of the order of the twenty-fourth day of February laft, directed to the committee upon the reading of a bill, for reftoring Sir Charles Stanley in blood, the firft time; whereas the faid bill began in the Houfe of Commons, it appearing by the records of Parliament, that all bills for the reftitution in blood, ought, before they be admitted and received in Parliament upon humble petition) to have the King's allowance for prefenting the faid bills; and that then they are to be profecuted and begun in the Houfe of Peers. Contrary to which privilege there having been errors committed, by reafon of beginning fome bills of this nature in the Lower Houfe, our late fovereign King James was pleafed to take notice thereof, openly giving admonition to both Houfes, concerning one act (namely, for reftitution of Rowland Merrick in blood) That no fuch act of reftitution from thenceforth fhould be proceeded withall in Parliament, till the fame were firft allowed and figned by the King; and that then it ought to begin firft in the Higher Houfe, whereof his faid Majefty did will an obfervation and remembrance to be made: notwithftanding which rule, by reafon of the interruption of the regular and parliamentary way of proceedings, occafioned by the late tumultuous times, whereby Sir Charles Stanley, and his counfel, have been miftaken in the proper way of bringing in a bill for reftitution in blood, in the Parliament: the Lords fpiritual and temporal in Parliament affembled do declare, that although they have been pleafed to receive the faid bill, yet it is with this pofitive refolution that, for the future, no fuch act of reftitution fhall be proceeded withal in Parliament, till the fame be firft allowed and figned by the King's Majefty; and that then it fhall begin firft in the Houfe of Peers. And that to this purpofe the faid refolution of this Houfe, conformable to the orders of the 22d and 27th of May, in 3 *Jac.* 1606, be entered upon the roll of the ftanding orders of this Houfe.

Die Jovis, 23 Maii, 1678.

XCI. Ordered, That the Lords sub-committees for privileges and perusal of the Journal book have hereby power given them to examine so much of the Journal book of this House, as was left unexamined at the last prorogation; and that, for the future, the said Lords sub-committees are hereby empowered to meet after every session, for examining of so much of the Journal book as shall be left unexamined at the time of the ending of such session, without any further order.—*Ent. per Ord.* 9 *Nov.* 1685.

Die Mercurii, 19 Martii, 1678.

XCII. Whereas, by an act passed in the thirteenth year of his now Majesty's reign, intituled An act for the more effectual preserving the King's person and government, by disabling Papists from sitting in either House of Parliament, all and every the Peers of this realm are to take the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and make and subscribe the declaration in the said act contained, in such manner as therein is directed: now, for preventing interruption of debates, by the late coming in of Lords to take the said oaths and make and subscribe the said declaration, it is ordered, That such Peers as have not taken the said oaths and subscribed the said declaration, and come to the House with an intent to do the same, are to be present, for that purpose, at the first sitting of the House. And it is further ordered, That this order be added to the roll of the standing orders of this House.

Die Veneris, 22 Maii, 1685.

XCIII. Ordered, That no Lord under the age of one and twenty years shall be permitted to sit in this House. And it is further ordered, That this order be added to the standing orders of this House.

Die Mercurii, 20 Aprilis, 1698.

XCIV. Ordered, That for the future it be a general instruction to all committees, who shall meet upon private bills, that they take no notice of the consent of any person to the passing of such bill, unless such person appear before them, or that there be an affidavit of two persons made that he or she is not able to attend, and doth consent to the said bill: and that when any committee shall be appointed on a private bill, notice thereof be affixed on the doors of this House fourteen days before the meeting of the said committee. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Jovis, 7 Decembris, 1699.

XCV. Ordered, That for the future no private bill ſhall be brought into this Houſe until the Houſe be informed of the matters therein contained, by petition to this Houſe for leave to bring in ſuch bill. And that this order be added to the roll of ſtanding orders.

Die Veneris, 16 Novembris, 1705.

XCVI. Ordered, That for the future no private bill ſhall be read in this Houſe until printed copies thereof be left with the clerk of the Parliaments, for the peruſal of the Lords. And that one of the ſaid copies ſhall be delivered to every perſon as ſhall be concerned in the ſaid bill, before the meeting of the committee upon ſuch bill: and in caſe of infancy, to be delivered to the guardian or next relation of full age, not concerned in intereſt, or in the paſſing the ſaid bill. And that this order be added to the roll of ſtanding orders, and printed and publiſhed, to the end all perſons concerned may take notice thereof.

Die Lunæ, 14 Januarii, 1705.

XCVII. Ordered and declared, That for the future, when any cauſe ſhall be appointed to be heard in this Houſe, no private bill whatſoever ſhall be read that day before the hearing of the cauſe.—*Ent. per Ord.* 18 *Jan.* 1705.

Die Sabbati, 16 Februarii, 1705.

XCVIII. Ordered, That, for the future, all parties concerned in the conſequences of any private bill, ſhall ſign the petition that deſires leave to bring ſuch private bill into this Houſe.

XCIX. Ordered, That when a petition for a private bill ſhall be offered to this Houſe, it ſhall be referred to two of the Judges, who are forthwith to ſummon all parties before them who may be concerned in the bill; and after hearing all the parties, and peruſing the bill, are to report to the Houſe the ſtate of the caſe, and their opinion thereupon, under their hands, and are to ſign the ſaid bill. The ſame method to be obſerved as to private bills that are brought up from the Houſe of Commons, before the ſecond reading of ſuch bills, by ſending a copy of the ſaid bill, ſigned by the clerk, to the Judges.

C. Ordered, That where a bill is brought in to empower any perſon to ſell or diſpoſe of lands in one place, and buy or ſettle lands in another, the committee to whom ſuch bill ſhall

be referred, do take care that the values be fully made out, and that there be an agreement for the purchase; and also to take care in the bill that the purchase be effectually made and settled, as desired in such bill.—*Emendat. per Ord.* 13 *Martii*, 1729.

CI. Ordered, That in all cases where trustees shall be appointed by any private bill, the committee to whom that bill is referred do take care that the trustees appear personally before them, and accept the trust under their hands. And also, that the Lord who shall be in the chair of a committee for the passing of any private bill, when he makes his report, shall acquaint the House that all the orders of the House, in relation to private bills, were duly observed in the passing the said bill through the committee.

CII. Ordered, That for the future, when any private bill shall be sent by the House of Commons, there shall be at the same time transmitted to them a copy of these orders now made, and of all other standing orders of the House then in force, relating to the passing of private bills.—*Ent. per Ord.* 19 *Feb.* 1705.

Die Mercurii, 18 *Decembris*, 1706.

CIII. The House being informed that, upon the reference of petitions for private bills to the Judges, pursuant to the standing orders of this House, there arises some difficulty as to the examination upon oath of the persons who are produced before them, to prove the fact, as to the merits of such bills; it is ordered, That upon the reference of any private bill to the Judges as aforesaid, the Judges to whom the said bill shall be referred shall send to this House a list or lists of such persons names as are to be sworn, in relation to such bill; and that they shall be thereupon sworn at the bar of this House, in order to be examined by the Judges upon such oath, in relation to the bill before them.—*Ent. per Ord.* 20 *Dec.* 1706.

Die Veneris, 28 *Aprilis*, 1699.

CIV. Ordered, That for the future no motion shall be granted for making any order of this House a standing order, or for dispensing with a standing order of this House the same day it is made, nor before the House shall be summoned to consider of the said motion. And this to be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Veneris, 21 *Februarii*, 1717.

CV. Ordered, That in all cases upon writs of error, depending in this House, when diminution shall be at any time

time alledged, and a *certiorari* prayed and awarded before *in nullo est erratum* pleaded, the clerk of the Parliaments shall, upon request to him made, give a certificate that diminution is so alledged, and a *certiorari* prayed and awarded thereupon. And it is further ordered, that this order be entered on the roll of the standing orders of this House.

Die Veneris, 15 Januarii 1719.

CVI. Ordered, That when, upon an appeal to this House, an order is made for the respondent to answer thereunto by a time limited, and no answer is put in by that time, upon proof made of due service of such order, a peremptory day shall be appointed for putting in the answer, without any further notice to be given to the respondent.—*Ent. per Ord.* 19 *Jan.* 1719.

Die Martis, 29 Martii, 1720.

CVII. Ordered, That such appeals as have been presented during this session, to which answers have been, or shall be put in during this session, and for hearing whereof no day hath been or shall be appointed in this session, and all such appeals as shall be presented in any subsequent session, to which answers shall be put in during the same session, and for hearing whereof the day shall be appointed; if neither the appellant or respondent shall apply to this House, within eight days, to be accounted from and after the first day of the next session, or meeting of Parliament, for a day for hearing such appeals, shall stand dismissed, but without prejudice to the appellants presenting any new appeals thereafter, as they shall be advised.

CVIII. Ordered, That such appeals as have been presented during this session, to which no answers have been or shall be put in during this session, and all such appeals as shall be presented in any subsequent session, to which no answers shall be put in during the same session; if neither the appellant within eight days, to be accounted from and after the first day of the next session, or meeting of Parliament, shall apply to this House to appoint a peremptory day to answer, nor the respondent put in an answer within the said eight days, such appeals shall stand dismissed, but without prejudice to the appellants presenting any new appeals thereafter, as they shall be advised.

CIX. Ordered, That when any answer to an appeal shall be put in for the future, the clerk to whom it shall be delivered do immediately indorse thereon the day on which such answer

is brought in, and that the names of the parties anſwering, and to whoſe appeals ſuch anſwers are put in, be the ſame day entered in the Journal of this Houſe.—*Ent. per Ord.* 5 *Aprilis*, 1720.

Die Veneris, 3 *Junii*, 1720.

CX. The Houſe (according to order) proceeded to take into conſideration the ſtanding orders of the 11th of January, 1699, which requires oath of a breach of privilege to be made at the bar of this Houſe, in order to the taking any perſon into cuſtody; and the ſame being read, this explanation of, and addition to the ſaid order was made, viz. "That the ſame is to be underſtood only of breaches of privilege committed in Great Britain; but that oath made by affidavit in writing, of a breach of privilege committed in Ireland, may be ſufficient ground to take into cuſtody the perſon thereby proved to have been guilty of ſuch breach of privilege, though no oath be made thereof at the bar of this Houſe."

Ordered, That the ſaid explanation and addition be entered on the roll of ſtanding orders.

Die Lunæ, 19 *Decembris*, 1720.

CXI. Upon report from the Lords committees, appointed to conſider of the great diſorders that have been in this Houſe, eſpecially when his Majeſty is preſent, and of proper methods to prevent the ſame for the future, it is ordered, That when his Majeſty ſhall come publicly to this Houſe, all the Lords ſhall be in their robes, and ſit in their due places.

That at all ſuch ſolemn times, before his Majeſty comes, all the doors of this Houſe, and thoſe leading thereunto, particularly to the Prince's chamber, ſhall be kept ſhut, and no perſon whatſoever (except the Lords and aſſiſtants of this Houſe, the eldeſt ſons of Peers, who have a right to ſit and vote in this Houſe, and the officers and attendants thereto belonging) ſhall be ſuffered to come within the doors thereof, other than the maſter of the ceremonies, and ſuch as he ſhall certify the Lord Great Chamberlain to be foreign miniſters, or other foreigners of diſtinction; nor ſhall any ladies or men be permitted to come into the Houſe at any of the doors, unleſs ſome Lord doth move the Houſe for ſuch by name; and on the firſt day of a ſeſſion none but ſuch as ſhall apply by name to the Lord Great Chamberlain, or his deputy, and be admitted by his Lordſhip's directions; and that no perſon whatſoever do preſume to ſtand upon the throne, or ſteps thereof, but ſuch as carry his Majeſty's train, who ſhall ſtand behind the chair of ſtate, and thoſe that bear the regalia upon the ſecond ſtep of the throne.

That

That on ſuch days as his Majeſty ſhall come publicly to this Houſe, the painted chamber, and lobby, leading from it to the Houſe, ſhall, by the care of the gentleman uſher of the black rod, the yeoman uſher, and door keepers, be kept clear from footmen and all other perſons (except ſuch gentlemen and ſervants as attend the Lords with their robes) and that no perſon be covered when any Lord is there: and alſo that the knight marſhal's men appointed to attend this Houſe, do take care to keep the ſtairs and avenues leading thereunto free from diſturbance by footmen or any other perſons: and further, that the Lord Great Chamberlain, his deputy, be deſired to take care and give charge to the ſaid gentleman uſher, yeoman uſher, and door keepers, as alſo to the ſaid knight marſhal's men reſpectively, to ſee this order duly obſerved; and that it be printed and publiſhed, and affixed on the doors belonging to this Houſe and Weſtminſter Hall, to the end all perſons may the better take notice of the ſame.—*Ent. per Ord.* 22 *Dec.* 1720, with this addition, viz. " That it be affixed on the doors belonging to this Houſe and Weſtminſter Hall, the firſt day of every ſeſſion of Parliament."

Die Mercurii, 25 *Januarii,* 1720.

CXII. Ordered, That when an order of the day is appointed to be read, for taking any public buſineſs into conſideration, the Lord on the woolſack do ſtop the reading of the order till the Houſe ſhall be cleared of all perſons that have no right to be in the Houſe, when ſitting, if any ſuch ſhall be there at that time.—*Ent. per Ord.* 26 *Jan.* 1720.

Die Mercurii, 31 *Januarii,* 1721.

CXIII. Notice being taken, that the works, lives, and laſt wills of divers Lords of this Houſe have been frequently printed imperfectly, and publiſhed after their deaths, without the direction or conſent of the heirs, executors, adminiſtrators, or truſtees of ſuch Lords; it is, therefore, reſolved and declared, by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That if after the death of any Lord of this Houſe, any perſon preſume to publiſh in print his works, or any part of them not publiſhed in his life-time, or his life, or laſt will, without conſent of his heirs, executors, adminiſtrators, or truſtees, the ſame is a breach of privilege of this Houſe.

Ordered, That the ſaid reſolution and declaration be entered on the roll of the ſtanding orders of this Houſe, and printed and publiſhed, and affixed on the doors of this Houſe, to the end all perſons that may be therein concerned may the better take notice of the ſame.

Die Martis, 27 Februarii, 1721.

CXIV. Ordered, That ſuch Lords as ſhall make proteſtation or enter their diſſents, to any votes of this Houſe, as they have a right to do without aſking leave of the Houſe, either with or without their reaſons, ſhall cauſe their proteſtation, or diſſents, to be entered in the clerk's book, the next ſitting day of this Houſe, before the hour of two o'clock, otherwiſe the ſame ſhall not be entered, and ſhall ſign the ſame before the riſing of the Houſe the ſame day.—*Ent. per Ord.* 3 *Martii,* 1721.

Die Veneris, 6 Februarii, 1723.

CXV. Ordered, That the clerks and inferior officers attending this Houſe ſhall not be at any time ſuſpended, or diſplaced from their offices or employments, without leave of the Houſe.—*Ent. per Ord.* 10 *Feb.* 1723.

Die Martis, 25 Februarii, 1723.

CXVI. The order of the day being read for taking into conſideration the ſeveral liſts of certificates of written protections delivered yeſterday at the bar, by the ſecondaries of the two compters in London, the under ſheriff of Middleſex, and the high bailiff of Weſtminſter, which are entered in their reſpective offices: and the ſaid officers attending were called in, and the ſtanding order of this Houſe of the 15th of April, 1712, in relation to written protections, being read, they were ſeverally examined as to their knowledge of the ſaid order, as alſo touching the manner or method of their entering written protections, and they were directed to withdraw, and the following order and declaration was made.

Ordered and declared, That all the ſaid written protections are null and void, and all other protections, which ſhall be at any time hereafter given, contrary to the ſaid ſtanding order, ſhall be taken to be null and void, and that no ſheriff, under ſheriff, deputy ſheriff, ſecondary, or other officer, whoſe duty it is to iſſue any legal proceſs, or to execute the ſame, or cauſe the ſame to be executed, ſhall receive or allow, or have any regard to make any entry in his office, which is or ſhall be ſigned, or pretended to be ſigned by any Lord of this Houſe: but that nothing herein contained ſhall be underſtood in any ſort to derogate from the ancient privilege of the Lords of Parliament, with reſpect to their menial ſervants, and thoſe of their family, as alſo thoſe employed neceſſarily and properly about their eſtates, as well as their perſons, or to expoſe to arreſts thoſe who are really ſervants to them, as aforeſaid.—*Ent. per Ord.* 29 *Feb.* 1723.

Die

Die Veneris, 18 *Decembris*, 1724.

CXVII. Ordered by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That in all causes on appeals, or writs of error, appointed to be heard in this House, the appellants and respondents, the plaintiffs and defendants, or their respective agents, or solicitors, do, for the future, deliver to the clerk of the Parliaments, or clerk assistant, to be distributed to the Lords of this House, the printed cases upon such appeals or writs of error, at least two days before the hearing of the same; and that no other or different cases in any such causes, be at any time afterwards printed or delivered. And it is further ordered, that this order be forthwith printed and affixed on the doors of this House and Westminster Hall, to the end all persons therein concerned may the better take notice of the same.—*Ent. per Ord.* 12 *Jan.* 1724.

Die Jovis, 24 *Martii*, 1725.

CXVIII. Ordered, That no petition of appeal from any decree or sentence of any court of equity in England or Ireland, or of any court in Scotland, before this time, signed and enrolled or extracted, shall be received by this House after five years, to be accounted from the expiration of this present session of Parliament, and the end of the next session ensuing the said five years: nor shall any petition of appeal, from any decree or sentence of any of the said courts, to be hereafter signed and enrolled or extracted, be received by this House, after five years from the signing and enrolling or extracting of such decree or sentence, and the end of fourteen days to be accounted from and after the first day of the session or meeting of Parliament, next ensuing the said five years, unless the person entitled to such appeal be within the age of one and twenty years, or covert, *non compos mentis*, imprisoned, or out of Great Britain or Ireland: in which case, such person shall, and may be at liberty to bring his appeal for reversing any such decree or sentence at any time within five years next after his full age, discoverture, coming of sound mind, enlargement out of prison, or coming into Great Britain or Ireland, and fourteen days to be accounted from and after the first day of the session or meeting of Parliament next ensuing the said five years, but not afterwards, or otherwise.

Die Sabbati, 2 *Martii*, 1727.

CXIX. Upon report from the committee of the whole House, appointed to take into consideration matters relating to the proceedings on appeals and writs of error, it is ordered, That at the hearing of causes for the future, one of the

the counſel for the appellants, ſhall open the cauſe, then the evidence on their ſide ſhall be read; which done, the other counſel for the appellants may make obſervations on the evidence, then one of the counſel for the reſpondents ſhall be heard, and the evidence on their ſide to be read; after which the other counſel for the reſpondents ſhall be heard, and one counſel only for the appellants to reply.—*Ent. per Ord.* 4 *Martii*, 1727.

Die Mercurii, 17 *Martii*, 1730.

CXX. Ordered, That no declaration made by any Lord of this Houſe of a waiver of his privilege, ſhall be conſtrued to be a waiver of privilege, unleſs it be in writing ſigned by himſelf, or unleſs ſuch declaration be made in perſon openly in this Houſe.—*Ent. per Ord.* 22 *Martii*, 1730.

Die Veneris, 25 *Februarii*, 1731.

CXXI. Ordered, That all the Lords who ſhall come to any committee of privileges, ſhall be of that committee.—*Ent. per Ord.* 29 *Feb.* 1731.

Die Veneris, 5 *Aprilis*, 1734.

CXXII. Upon report from the Lords committees appointed to conſider the ſtanding orders of this Houſe, in relation to the hearing of appeals; it is ordered, That all ſuch appeals as have been preſented, for hearing whereof days ſhall be appointed during this ſeſſion, which ſhall not be determined in this ſeſſion, and all ſuch appeals as ſhall be preſented, for hearing whereof days ſhall be appointed in any ſubſequent ſeſſion, ſhall not be determined in the ſame ſeſſion, ſhall be heard and determined in the beginning of the next ſeſſion of Parliament, in the ſame order and courſe as they ſhall ſtand, to be heard at the end of this, or any other ſeſſion, without any new application to this Houſe, to appoint a day for hearing the ſame; and that ſuch of the ſaid appeals as ſhall ſtand firſt, to be heard at the end of this or any other ſeſſion, ſhall ſtand to be heard upon the firſt Monday after the firſt day of the next ſeſſion or meeting of Parliament, the ſecond upon the Wedneſday, the third upon the Friday following, and from thence the reſt in courſe, upon every Monday, Wedneſday, and Friday, until they ſhall be all heard and determined. And it is further ordered, That this order be, and is hereby declared to be a ſtanding order of this Houſe, and entered on the roll; and that it be printed and publiſhed, and affixed on the doors of this Houſe and Weſtminſter Hall,

Hall, to the end all perſons that ſhall be therein concerned may the better take notice of the ſame.

Die Veneris, 28 Martii, 1735.

CXXIII. Upon report from the Lords committees appointed to conſider of the ſtanding orders of this Houſe, in relation to the putting in of anſwers to appeals; it is ordered and declared, That when, upon an appeal to this Houſe, an order hath been or ſhall be made for the reſpondent or reſpondents to anſwer thereto by a time limited; if the ſeſſion of Parliament, wherein ſuch order hath been, or ſhall be made, ſhall determine before the time ſo limited for anſwering ſhall be expired, and no anſwer ſhall be put in during the ſame ſeſſion, ſervice of ſuch order upon the reſpondent or reſpondents to ſuch appeal, by the ſpace of five weeks at leaſt before the firſt day of the then next ſeſſion, ſhall be deemed good ſervice; and the appellant may apply to this Houſe for a peremptory day for putting in the anſwer in caſe the reſpondent or reſpondents ſhall not put in his or their anſwer within three days, to be computed from the firſt day of the next ſeſſion of Parliament: and it is further ordered, That this order and declaration be entered on the roll of ſtanding orders, and printed and publiſhed, and affixed on the doors of this Houſe and Weſtminſter Hall.

Die Jovis, 8 Junii, 1749.

CXXIV. Upon report from the Lords committees appointed to conſider of the ſtanding orders of this Houſe of the 5th of April, 1734, in relation to the hearing of appeals left undetermined in a former ſeſſion, and what alterations or amendments are proper to be made therein, in order to render the ſame more effectual; it is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That all ſuch appeals as have been preſented for hearing, whereof days have been appointed during this ſeſſion which ſhall not be determined in this ſeſſion: and all ſuch appeals as ſhall be preſented for hearing whereof days ſhall be appointed in any ſubſequent ſeſſion which ſhall not be determined in the ſame ſeſſion, ſhall be heard and determined in the beginning of next ſeſſion of Parliament, in the ſame order and courſe as they ſtand to be heard at the end of this or any future ſeſſion, without any new application to this Houſe to appoint a day for hearing the ſame: and that ſuch of the ſaid appeals as ſhall ſtand firſt to be heard at the end of this or any future ſeſſion of Parliament ſhall ſtand to be heard upon the Wedneſday in the week next after that week in which any ſubſequent ſeſſion of Parliament ſhall begin;

gin; the second upon the Friday following, and the third upon the Monday following, and from thence the rest of the said appeals in course upon every Wednesday, Friday, and Monday, until they shall be all heard and determined; and that in the case any such appeal shall not be adjourned by order of this House, made before the day on which the same is hereby appointed to be heard, and the party or parties on one side shall attend by their counsel, and the party or parties on the other side shall not attend by their counsel on the said day appointed for hearing thereof; such appeal shall be heard *ex parte*; and in case neither of the said parties to such appeal shall attend by their counsel on the said day appointed for hearing thereof, then the said appeal shall stand absolutely dismissed; but without prejudice in this last case to the appellant or appellants, presenting any new appeal thereafter in such manner as the said appellant or appellants might have done in case such former appeal had not been presented to this House, as he or they shall be advised.

Ordered, That the standing order aforementioned be vacated and made void: and that this order be substituted instead thereof, and declared to be a standing order; and that it be entered on the roll of standing orders, and printed and published, and affixed on the doors of this House and Westminster Hall.

Die Mercurii, 8 Junii, 1757.

CXXV. Ordered and declared by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That no Peer or Lord of Parliament hath privilege of peerage or of Parliament against being compelled by process of the courts in Westminster Hall to pay obedience to a writ of *habeas corpus* directed to him: and it is further ordered, That this order and declaration be entered upon the roll of the standing orders of this House.

Die Mercurii, 19 Maii, 1762.

CXXVI. Upon the report made from the Lords committees appointed to take into consideration the roll of standing orders of this House, in relation to the standing order of the 16th of February, 1705, No. 100, it is ordered, That where a bill is brought in to empower any person to sell or dispose of lands in one place, and to buy or settle lands in another place, the committee to whom such bill shall be referred do take care that the values be fully made out; and if the bill shall not be for making a new purchase, but only for settling other lands in lieu of those to be sold, in that case, provision shall be made in the bill, that such other lands be settled accordingly: but if the bill shall be to purchase and set-

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tle other lands, in that case, the committee are to take care that there be a binding agreement produced for such new purchase, or if it shall be made to appear to the committee that such agreement cannot then be made, or that such purchase cannot then be made and settled as desired by the bill, and the committee shall then be satisfied with the reasons alledged for either of those purposes; in either of those cases, provision shall be made in the bill that so much of the money arising by sale of the lands directed to be sold as is to be laid out in a new purchase, shall be paid by the purchaser or purchasers into the Bank of England, in the name and with the privity of the accomptant general of the high court of chancery, to be placed to his account there, *ex parte* the purchaser or purchasers of the estate of the person or persons mentioned in the title of the said bill, pursuant to the method prescribed by the act of the 12th year of King George I. chap. 32, and the general orders of the said court, and without fee or reward, according to the act of the 12th year of King George II. chap. 24. and shall, when so paid in, be laid out in the purchase of navy or victualling bills. And it is further ordered, That the interest arising from the money so laid out in the said navy or victualling bills, or exchequer bills, and the money received for the same, as they shall be respectively paid off by government, shall be laid out in the name of the said accomptant general in the purchase of other navy or victualling bills or exchequer bills: all which said navy and victualling bills and exchequer bills shall be deposited in the Bank in the name of the said accomptant general, and shall there remain until a proper purchase or purchases be found and approved, as shall be directed by such bill, and until the same shall upon a petition, setting forth such approbation, to be preferred to the court of chancery in a summary way, by the persons to be named in the bill, be ordered to be sold by the said accomptant general, for the completing such purchase in such manner as the said court shall think just and direct. And it is further ordered, That if the money arising by the sale of such navy, victualling, or exchequer bills, shall exceed the amount of the original purchase money so laid out as aforesaid, then, and in that case only, the surplus which shall remain, after discharging the expence of the applications to the court, shall be paid to such person or persons respectively as would have been entitled to receive the rents and profits of the lands directed to be purchased in case the same had been purchased pursuant to the act, or to the representations of such person or persons.—*Emendat. per Ord.* 18 *Junii*, 1795.

Ordered, That the ſtanding order before-mentioned be vacated and made void; and that this order be ſubſtituted inſtead thereof, and declared to be a ſtanding order; and that it be entered on the roll of ſtanding orders, and printed and publiſhed, to the end that all perſons concerned may take notice thereof.

Die Martis, 8 Martii, 1763.

CXXVII. Ordered, by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That for the future, if the reſpondent or reſpondents to any appeal depending in this Houſe ſhall be deſirous to exhibit a croſs appeal, they ſhall preſent the ſame within one week after the anſwer put into the original appeal, otherwiſe the ſame ſhall not be received.—*Ent. per Ord.* 10 *Martii*, 1763.

Die Veneris, 20 Martii, 1767.

CXXVIII. Ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That this Houſe, or any committee thereof, do not proceed to the hearing upon any claim to a title of honour until fourteen days after printed caſes ſhall have been delivered, which ſhall contain an abſtract of the proofs and authorities upon which ſuch claim may be founded, together with the dates thereof, and references where the ſame may be found.—*Ent. per Ord.* 24 *Martii*, 1767.

Die Lunæ, 11 Maii, 1767.

CXXIX. Upon report from the Lords committees appointed to conſider of the moſt proper means effectually to aſcertain the deſcents of the Peers of this kingdom, ſo that the crown or this Houſe may not incur the riſque of being impoſed upon by any ill-founded claim of peerage.

It is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That the King's heralds and purſuivants of arms do take exact accounts, and do preſerve regular entries in their books of office of the Peers and Peereſſes of this part of the kingdom and deſcendants from them, ſo far as it may be in their power to procure authentic information thereof.

Ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That Garter King of Arms do officially attend this Houſe upon the day and at the time of the firſt admiſſion of every Peer, whether by creation or deſcent; and that he do then and there deliver in at the table a pedigree of the family of ſuch Peer, fairly deſcribed on vellum, which pedigree ſhall include the father and mother, the brother and ſiſters, their iſſue, the wife or wives of ſuch Peer, the children

dren of ſuch Peer, their iſſue, according to ſeniority, down to the day on which ſuch pedigree ſhall be ſo delivered in, together with the marriages, births, baptiſms, deaths, and burials, names, ſurnames, ages, titles, qualities, offices, and employments, (if any) places of abode, and deſcription of every perſon inſerted in ſuch pedigree, ſo far as the ſaid Garter and the officers of the college of arms may have been able to obtain the knowledge thereof. And in caſe where ſuch Peer ſhall not ſucceed in the honour to his father or mother, but to his grandfather, grandmother, uncle, or aunt, being the not immediate preceding Peer or Peereſs after whom he ſhall take ſuch honour, then ſuch pedigree ſhall alſo further include ſuch grandfather or grandmother, uncle and aunt, together with their deſcendants, in like form and manner, and down to the ſame period as aforeſaid. And ſuch pedigree ſo delivered in ſhall be then referred to the committee of privileges, who ſhall examine and report the ſame as it ſhall appear to them verified with the proofs; which report being agreed to by the Houſe, ſuch pedigree (ſigned and certified by every ſuch Peer to be true to the beſt of his knowledge, information, and belief, upon his honour) ſhall be filed by the clerk, and kept (together with the proofs) amongſt the records of the Houſe, and an authentic copy thereof regiſtered in the office of arms: provided, nevertheleſs, that nothing herein contained ſhall be conſtrued to bar the claim or prejudice the rights of any perſon who may be found at any time aggrieved by any omiſſion of entry, or by any defect or error which may be proved by legal evidence to have happened in the conſtruction of ſuch pedigree.

Ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That every Peer and every Peereſs in her own right be at liberty to make proof of his or her pedigree before the committee of privileges, and obtain the like entry thereof.

Ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That the heralds may demand, as a reaſonable fee, the ſum of twenty pounds, for their care, expences, trouble, and attendance, in collecting, preparing, delivering in, and aſſiſting at the proof of the pedigree of each Peer and Peereſs, and regiſtering the ſame, purſuant to the foregoing reſolutions, to be paid by every Peer upon his firſt admiſſion, or by any other Peer or Peereſs who ſhall deſire to make proof of his or her pedigree in like manner.

Ordered, That theſe orders be printed and publiſhed, and affixed on the doors of this Houſe and Weſtminſter Hall, to the end all perſons that ſhall be therein concerned may the better take notice of the ſame.

Die Veneris, 18 *Aprilis*, 1788.

CXXX. Upon consideration of the report from the Lords committees for privileges, to whom it was referred to consider of the rules and orders of this House for preserving order therein, it is ordered, That for the future no person shall be in any part of the House during the sitting of the House, except Lords of Parliament and Peers of Great Britain and heirs apparent of such Peers or of Peeresses of Great Britain, in their own right, and such other persons as attend this House as assistants; and that this be added to the roll of standing orders of this House.

Die Mercurii, 16 *Maii*, 1792.

CXXXI. Ordered by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That for the future where a petition for a private bill concerning estates in land or heritable subjects, situate in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, shall be offered to this House, it shall be referred to the Lord President of the court of session in Scotland, the Lord Justice Clerk, and the Chief Baron of the court of exchequer in Scotland, or any two of them, who are forthwith to summon all parties before them who may be concerned in the bill, and after hearing all the parties, and perusing the bill, are to report to the House the state of the case, and their opinion thereupon, under their hands, and are to sign the said bill. The same method is to be observed as to private bills, concerning estates in land or heritable subjects situated in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, brought from the House of Commons, before the second reading of such bill, by sending a copy of the said bill, signed by the clerk, to the Chief Judges aforesaid, or any two of them.

Ordered, That for the future, heirs of entail concerned in the consequences of such private bills as aforesaid, and who reside in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, may give their consent to the passing of such bills before the Lord President of the court of session in Scotland, the Lord Justice Clerk, and the Chief Baron of the court of Exchequer in Scotland, or any two of them; and the certificate of the said Judges, or of any two of them; by which it shall appear that on a day and at a place to be therein expressed, such person or persons did appear personally before them, and being aware of the interest they may have in such bill, did give his, her, or their consent for him or themselves, and for those for whom, according to the law of Scotland, he, she, or they, may be entitled to consent, and did in their presence sign a bill (which bill, together with the said certificate, must be produced) shall be held

held as sufficient evidence of the consent of such person or persons before any committee of this House to whom the consideration of such bill may be referred.

Ordered, That it be a general instruction to the Judges who shall meet to take the consent of heirs of entail concerned in the consequences of private bills, relating to estates in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, that they take no notice of the consent of any person to the passing of such bill, unless such person appear before them, or that it be made manifest to them by an instrument under the hand of a notary public, duly executed according to the forms required by the law of Scotland, that he or she is not able to attend, and doth consent to the said bill.

Ordered, That the said orders be made standing orders, and that they be entered on the roll of standing orders, and printed and published, to the end that all persons concerned may the better take notice of the same.

Die Lunæ, 11 Martii, 1793.

CXXXII. Ordered by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That no bill for making any cut, or canal, for the purposes of navigation, or any cut, canal, or aqueduct, for the purpose of supplying any city, town, or place, with water, or for varying or altering any such cut, canal, or aqueduct, already made, or for making or improving the navigation of any river, or for altering any act of Parliament passed for any or either of those purposes, shall be read a third time in this House, unless notice shall have been inserted three times in the London Gazette, in the months of August and September, or either of them, previous to the session of Parliament in which such bill shall be brought into Parliament, that an application was intended to be made to Parliament to obtain such bill: and unless such notice shall also have been inserted in some one newspaper of every county through which any such cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried, or in which such cut, canal, or aqueduct, already made, is intended to be varied or altered, or in which such river, or such part thereof, as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be improved, is situated (or if there be not any newspaper printed in such counties respectively, then in the newspaper of some county near or adjoining thereto) three times at the least, in the months of August and September, or either of them, immediately preceding the session of Parliament in which such application is intended to be made: and unless such notice shall also have been given at the general quarter session of the peace which shall have been

holden for every and each county, riding, or division, through which any such cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried; or in which such cut, canal, or aqueduct, already made, is intended to be varied or altered; or in which such river, or such part thereof as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be improved, is situated, at Michaelmas preceding the session of Parliament in which such application is intended to be made, by affixing such notice on the door of the session house of each and every such county where such general quarter session shall be holden.

Ordered, That such several notices shall contain the names of the parishes and townships, (and of no other) into or through which any such cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried, varied, or altered, or in which such river, or such part thereof as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be improved, is situated.

Ordered, That no bill for all or any of the purposes aforesaid shall be read a third time in this House, unless, previously to such bill being brought to this House from the Commons, a map, or plan of such intended cut, or canal, aqueduct, or navigation, or of any intended alteration in any cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, already made (as the case may be) shall have been deposited with the clerk of the Parliaments, in which map or plan shall be described the line of such intended cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, or of such intended alteration, and the lands through which the same is intended to be carried; together with a book of reference, containing a list of the names of the owners, or reputed owners, and also of the occupiers of such lands respectively; and that there be also annexed to the said map, or plan, an estimate of the expence of such undertaking (in cases where provision is intended to be made for raising money to defray such expence) such estimate to be signed by the person or persons making the same; and if such money is proposed to be raised by subscription, that there be also annexed to the said map, or plan, an account of the money subscribed for that purpose, and the names of the subscribers, with the sums by them subscribed respectively.

Ordered, That no bill for all or any of the purposes aforesaid shall be read a third time in this House, unless previously to such bill being brought to this House from the Commons, application shall have been made to the owners or reputed owners, and also to the occupiers of the lands through which any such cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, is intended to be carried, or any such alteration is intended to be made, for the consent of such persons respectively; and unless such map,

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or plan, as aforesaid, or a duplicate thereof, shall, at the time of such application, have been shewn to them respectively; and unless separate lists shall have been made of the names of such owners and occupiers, distinguishing which of them, upon such application, have assented to, or dissented from, such intended cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, or such alteration, or are neuter in respect thereof; and unless such lists shall be deposited with the clerk of the Parliaments at the same time as the map, or plan, and book of reference mentioned in the preceding order.

Ordered, That in case any bill for all or any of the purposes aforesaid shall contain a clause to empower the person or persons who shall make such cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, as aforesaid, or any part thereof, to vary or deviate from the line particularly described in the map or plan deposited as aforesaid, with the clerk of the Parliaments, such bill shall not be read a third time in this House, unless a like application shall have been made to the owners, or reputed owners, and occupiers of the lands through which such cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, might pass by virtue of the power so given to alter or vary the line thereof; and unless a like list as aforesaid of such owners, or reputed owners, and occupiers, be deposited at the time and in the manner aforesaid with the clerk of the Parliaments, as if it had been originally proposed to carry such cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, through the lands of such persons respectively.

Ordered, That for the future, when any bill, for all or any of the purposes aforesaid, shall be sent by this House to a committee; there shall be at the same time transmitted to such committee a copy of the aforesaid orders now made, and of all other standing orders of the House then in force, relating to the passing of such bills: and such committee shall examine in the first place, whether the orders aforesaid have, or have not, been complied with, and shall report the same to the House.

Ordered, That the said orders be declared standing orders, and that they be entered upon the roll of standing orders of this House, and printed and published, to the end all persons concerned may the better take notice of the same.—*Ent. per Ord. March* 14, 1793.

Die Mercurii, 19 Junii, 1795.

CXXXIII. Upon report from the Lords Committees appointed to consider of the roll of standing orders of this House, it is ordered by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That previous to the second reading in this House

of any bill for making any navigation, aqueduct, cut, or canal, or for improving the same, the map or plan of the said navigation, aqueduct, cut, or canal, which is directed to be lodged in the Parliament office, by the standing order No. 132, shall be engraved or printed upon a scale of half an inch, at least, to a mile, and annexed to the printed copies of the bill, and shall be laid upon the table of this House.

Ordered, That the said order be declared a standing order, and that it be entered on the roll of standing orders of this House, and printed and published, to the end all persons concerned may the better take notice of the same.—*Ent. per ord.* 19 *Junii*, 1795.



STANDING ORDERS relating to the bringing in, and proceeding on, Private Bills, in the House of Peers.

Die Mercurii, 20 *Aprilis*, 1698.

IT is ordered by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That for the future it be a general instruction to all committees, who shall meet upon private bills, that they take no notice of the consent of any person to the passing of such bill, unless such person appear before them, or that there be an affidavit of two persons made, that he or she is not able to attend, and doth consent to the said bill: and that when any committee shall be appointed on a private bill, notice thereof be affixed on the doors of this House fourteen days before the meeting of the said committee. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Jovis, 7 *Decembris*, 1699.

It is ordered by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That for the future no private bill shall be brought into this House until the House be informed of the matters therein contained, by petition to this House for leave to bring in such bill. And that this order be added to the roll of standing orders.

Die Veneris, 16 *Novembris*, 1705.

It is ordered by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That for the future no private bill shall be read in this House a second time, until printed copies thereof be left with: he clerk of the Parliaments, for the perusal of the Lords. And that one of the said copies shall be delivered to every person as shall be concerned in the said bill, before the

the meeting of the committee upon ſuch bill: and in caſe of infancy, to be delivered to the guardian, or next relation of full age, not concerned in intereſt, or in the paſſing the ſaid bill. And that this order be added to the roll of ſtanding orders, and printed and publiſhed, to the end all perſons concerned may take notice thereof.

Die Lunæ, 14 Januarii, 1705.

It is this day ordered and declared by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That for the future, when any cauſe ſhall be appointed to be heard in this Houſe, no private bill whatſoever ſhall be read that day before the hearing of the cauſe.

Die Veneris, 18 Januarii, 1705.

It is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That the order made the 14th inſtant, for declaring that no private bill whatſoever ſhall be read that day any cauſe is or ſhall be appointed to be heard, before the hearing of the ſaid cauſe, ſhall be, and is hereby, made a ſtanding order of this Houſe, and entered on the roll.

Die Sabbati, 16 Februarii, 1705.

It is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That for the future, all parties concerned in the conſequences of any private bill, ſhall ſign the petition that deſires leave to bring ſuch private bill into this Houſe.

It is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That when a petition for a private bill ſhall be offered to this Houſe, it ſhall be referred to two of the Judges, who are forthwith to ſummon all parties before them who may be concerned in the bill; and after hearing all the parties, and peruſing the bill, are to report to the Houſe the ſtate of the caſe, and their opinion thereupon, under their hands, and are to ſign the ſaid bill. The ſame method to be obſerved as to private bills that are brought up from the Houſe of Commons, before the ſecond reading of ſuch bills, by ſending a copy of the ſaid bill, ſigned by the clerk, to the Judges.

It is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That in all caſes where truſtees ſhall be appointed by any private bill, the committee to whom that bill is referred do take care that the truſtees appear perſonally before them, and accept the truſt under their hands. And alſo, that the Lord who ſhall be in the chair of a committee for the paſſing of any private bills, when he makes his report, ſhall ac-

acquaint the Houſe that all the orders of the Houſe, in relation to private bills, were duly obſerved in the paſſing the ſaid bill through the committee.

It is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That for the future, when any private bill ſhall be ſent by the Houſe to a committee, there ſhall be at the ſame time tranſmitted to them a copy of theſe orders now made, and of all other ſtanding orders of the Houſe then in force, relating to the paſſing of private bills.

Die Martis, 19 *Februarii,* 1705.

It is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That the orders of the 16th inſtant, relating to private bills, ſhall be, and they are hereby declared to be, ſtanding orders, and entered on the roll.

Die Mercurii, 18 *Decembris,* 1706.

The Houſe being informed that, upon the reference of petitions for private bills to the Judges, purſuant to the ſtanding orders of this Houſe, there ariſes ſome difficulty as to the examination upon oath of the perſons who are produced before them, to prove the fact, as to the merits of ſuch bills; it is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That upon the reference of any private bill to the Judges as aforeſaid, the Judges to whom the ſaid bill ſhall be referred ſhall ſend to this Houſe a liſt or liſts of ſuch perſons names as are to be ſworn, in relation to ſuch bill; and that they ſhall be thereupon ſworn at the bar of this Houſe, in order to be examined by the Judges upon ſuch oath, in relation to the bill before them.—*Ent. per Ord.* 20 *Dec.* 1706.

Die Sabbati, 5 *Aprilis,* 1707.

It is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That on all reports made from committees of amendments to bills for the future, the Lord that makes the report do explain to the Houſe the effect and coherence of each amendment; and that on the clerk's ſecond reading of the ſame amendments, the Lord on the woolſack do the ſame: and this to be added to the roll of ſtanding orders.

Die Mercurii, 19 *Maii,* 1762.

Upon report made from the Lords committees appointed to take into conſideration the roll of ſtanding orders of this Houſe, in relation to the ſtanding order of the 16th of February, 1705, No. 100, it is ordered by the Lords ſpiritual and temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That where a bill is brought in to empower any perſon to ſell or diſ-

dispose of lands in one place, and to buy or settle lands in another place, the committee to whom such bill shall be referred do take care that the values be fully made out; and if the bill shall not be for making a new purchase, but only for settling other lands in lieu of those to be sold, in that case, provision shall be made in the bill, that such other lands be settled accordingly: but if the bill shall be to purchase and settle other lands, in that case, the committee are to take care that there be a binding agreement produced for such new purchase; or if it shall be made appear to the committee that such agreement cannot then be made, or that such purchase cannot then be made and settled, as desired by the bill, and the committee shall be satisfied with the reasons alledged for either of those purposes, in either of those cases, provision shall be made in the bill, That so much of the money arising by sale of the lands directed to be sold, as is to be laid out in a new purchase, shall be paid by the purchaser or purchasers into the Bank of England, in the name and with the privity of the accomptant general of the high court of Chancery, to be placed to his account there, *ex parte* the purchaser or purchasers of the estate of the person or persons mentioned in the title of the said bill, pursuant to the method prescribed by the act of the 12th year of King George the First, cap. xxxii. and the general orders of the said court, and without fee or reward, according to the act of the 12th year of King George the Second, cap. xxiv. and shall, when so paid in, be laid out in the purchase of navy or victualling bills, or exchequer bills. And it is further ordered, That the interest arising from the money so laid out in the said navy or victualling bills, or exchequer bills, and the money received for the same, as they shall be respectively paid off by government, shall be laid out in the name of the said accomptant general, in the purchase of other navy or victualling bills, or exchequer bills; all which said navy and victualling bills, and exchequer bills, shall be deposited in the Bank in the name of the said accomptant general, and shall there remain until a proper purchase or purchases be found and approved, as shall be directed by such bill, and until the same shall, upon a petition, setting forth such approbation, to be preferred to the court of Chancery in a summary way, by the persons to be named in the bill, be ordered to be sold by the said accomptant general for the completing such purchase, in such manner as the said court shall think just, and direct. And it is further ordered, That if the money arising by the sale of such navy, victualling, or exchequer bills, shall exceed the amount of the original purchase money so laid out as aforesaid, then, and in that case only, the

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surplus which shall remain, after discharging the expence of the applications to the court, shall be paid to such person or persons respectively as would have been entitled to receive the rents and profits of the lands directed to be purchased in case the same had been purchased pursuant to the act, or to the representatives of such person or persons.

Ordered, That the standing order before-mentioned be vacated and made void, and that this order be substituted instead thereof, and declared to be a standing order, and that it be entered on the roll of standing orders, and printed and published, to the end that all persons concerned may take notice thereof.

Die Mercurii, 16 *Maii*, 1792.

Ordered by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That for the future, when a petition for a private bill concerning estates in land, or heritable subjects, situated in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, shall be offered to this House, it shall be referred to the Lord President of the court of session in Scotland, the Lord Justice Clerk, and the Chief Baron of the court of Exchequer in Scotland, or any two of them, who are forthwith to summon all parties before them who may be concerned in the bill, and after hearing all the parties, and perusing the bill, are to report to the House the state of the case, and their opinion thereupon, under their hands, and are to sign the said bill. The same method is to be observed as to private bills concerning estates in land, or heritable subjects, situated in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, brought from the House of Commons, before the second reading of such bills, by sending a copy of the said bill, signed by the clerk, to the chief Judges aforesaid, or any two of them.

Ordered, That for the future, heirs of entail concerned in the consequences of such private bills as aforesaid, and who reside in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, may give their consent to the passing of such bills before the Lord President of the court of session in Scotland, the Lord Justice Clerk, and the Chief Baron of the court of Exchequer in Scotland, or any two of them; and the certificate of the said Judges, or of any two of them, by which it shall appear, that on a day and at a place to be therein expressed, such person or persons did appear personally before them, and being aware of the interest they may have in such bill, did give his, her, or their consent for him or themselves, and for those for whom, according to the law of Scotland, he, she, or they, may be entitled to consent, and did in their presence sign a bill, (which bill, together with the said certificate, must be produced) shall

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be held as sufficient evidence of the consent of such person or persons, before any committee of this House to whom the consideration of such bill may be referred.

Ordered, That it be a general instruction to the Judges who shall meet to take consent of heirs of entail concerned in the consequences of private bills relating to estates in that part of Great Britain called Scotland, that they take no notice of the consent of any person to the passing of such bill, unless such person appear before them, or that it be made manifest to them, by an instrument under the hand of a notary public, duly executed according to the forms required by the law of Scotland, that he or she is not able to attend, and doth consent to the said bill.

Ordered, That the said orders be made standing orders, and that they be entered on the roll of standing orders, and printed and published, to the end that all persons concerned may the better take notice of the same.

STANDING ORDERS relating to the bringing in, and proceeding on, Bills respecting Navigable Canals.

Die Lunæ, 11 *Martii*, 1793.

ORDERED, by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That no bill for making any cut, or canal, for the purposes of navigation; or any cut, canal, or aqueduct, for the purpose of supplying any city, town, or place, with water; or for varying or altering any such cut, canal, or aqueduct already made; or for making or improving the navigation of any river; or for altering any act of Parliament, passed for any or either of those purposes, shall be read a third time in this House, unless notice shall have been inserted three times in the London Gazette, in the months of August and September, or either of them, previous to the session of Parliament in which such bill shall be brought into Parliament, that an application was intended to be made to Parliament to obtain such bill; and unless such notice shall also have been inserted in some one newspaper of every county through which any such cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried; or in which such cut, canal, or aqueduct already made, is intended to be varied or altered; or in which such river, or such part thereof as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be improved, is situated; (or if there be not any

any newſpaper printed in ſuch counties reſpectively, then in the newſpaper of ſome county near or adjoining thereto), three times at the leaſt, in the months of Auguſt and September, or either of them, immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch application is intended to be made: and unleſs ſuch notice ſhall alſo have been given at the general quarter ſeſſion of the peace which ſhall have been holden for every and each county, riding, or diviſion, through which any ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried; or in which ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct already made, is intended to be varied or altered; or in which ſuch river, or ſuch part thereof as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be improved, is ſituated, at Michælmas preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch application is intended to be made, by affixing ſuch notice on the door of the ſeſſion houſe of each and every ſuch county where ſuch general quarter ſeſſion ſhall be holden.

Ordered, That ſuch ſeveral notices ſhall contain the names of the pariſhes and townſhips (and of no other) in, to, or through which any ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried, varied, or altered; or in which ſuch river, or ſuch part thereof as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be improved, is ſituated.

Ordered, That no bill, for all or any of the purpoſes aforeſaid, ſhall be read a third time in this Houſe, unleſs previouſly to ſuch bill being brought to this Houſe from the Commons, a map or plan of ſuch intended cut or canal, aqueduct, or navigation, or of any intended alteration in any cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, already made, (as the caſe may be), ſhall have been depoſited with the clerk of the Parliaments; in which map, or plan, ſhall be deſcribed the line of ſuch intended cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, or of ſuch intended alteration, and the lands through which the ſame is intended to be carried, together with a book of reference, containing a liſt of the names of the owners, or reputed owners, and alſo of the occupiers, of ſuch lands reſpectively: and that there be alſo annexed to the ſaid map or plan an eſtimate of the expence of ſuch undertaking, (in caſes where proviſion is intended to be made for raiſing money to defray ſuch expence,) ſuch eſtimate to be ſigned by the perſon or perſons making the ſame; and, if ſuch money is propoſed to be raiſed by ſubſcription, that there be alſo annexed to the ſaid map, or plan, an account of the money ſubſcribed for that purpoſe, and the names of the ſubſcribers, with the ſums by them ſubſcribed reſpectively.

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Ordered, That no bill, for all or any of the purposes aforesaid, shall be read a third time in this House, unless, previously to such bill being brought to this House from the Commons, application shall have been made to the owners, or reputed owners, and also to the occupiers, of the lands through which any such cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, is intended to be carried, or any such alteration is intended to be made, for the consent of such persons respectively; and unless such map or plan, as aforesaid, or a duplicate thereof, shall, at the time of such application, have been shewn to them respectively; and unless separate lists shall have been made of the names of such owners and occupiers, distinguishing which of them, upon such application, have assented to, or dissented from, such intended cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, or such alteration, or are neuter in respect thereof; and unless such list shall be deposited with the clerk of the Parliaments at the same time as the map or plan, and book of reference, mentioned in the preceding order.

Ordered, That in case any bill, for all or any of the purposes aforesaid, shall contain a clause to empower the person or persons who shall make such cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, as aforesaid, or any part thereof, to vary or deviate from the line particularly described in the map or plan deposited as aforesaid with the clerk of the Parliaments, such bill shall not be read a third time in this House, unless a like application shall have been made to the owners, or reputed owners, and occupiers of the lands through which such cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, might pass, by virtue of the power so given to alter or vary the line thereof; and unless a like list, as aforesaid, of such owners, or reputed owners, and occupiers, be deposited at the time, and in the manner aforesaid, with the clerk of the Parliaments, as if it had been originally proposed to carry such cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, through the lands of such persons respectively.

Ordered, That for the future, when any bill, for all or any of the purposes aforesaid, shall be sent by this House to a committee, there shall be at the same time transmitted to such committee a copy of the aforesaid orders now made, and of all other standing orders of the House then in force relating to the passing of such bills: and such committee shall examine, in the first place, whether the orders aforesaid have, or have not, been complied with, and shall report the same to the House.

Ordered, That the said orders be declared standing orders, and that they be entered upon the roll of standing orders of this

this House, and printed and published, to the end all persons concerned may the better take notice of the same.

Die Jovis, 18 *Junii*, 1795.

Upon report from the Lords committees appointed to consider of the standing orders of this House, it is ordered, by the Lords spiritual and temporal in Parliament assembled, That previous to the second reading in this House of any bill, for making any navigation, aqueduct, cut, or canal, or for improving the same, the map or plan of the said navigation, aqueduct, cut, or canal, which is directed to be lodged in the Parliament office, by the standing order No. 132, shall be engraved or printed upon a scale of half an inch at least to a mile, and annexed to the printed copies of the bill, and shall be laid upon the table of this House.

Ordered, That the said order be declared a standing order, and that it be entered upon the roll of standing orders of this House, and printed and published, to the end all persons concerned may the better take notice of the same.

A

COLLECTION

OF

RULES

AND

STANDING ORDERS

OF THE

House of Commons,

RELATIVE TO THE APPLYING FOR AND PASSING

BILLS

FOR

Inclosing and draining of Lands, making Turnpike Roads, Navigations, and Aqueducts, building Bridges, the more easy Recovery of small Debts, paving Cities or Towns,

AND OTHER PURPOSES.

RULES

AND

STANDING ORDERS,

&c.

Orders relating to Private Bills generally.

May 26, 1685.

I. ORDERED, That, for the future, no private bill be brought into this Houſe, but upon a petition firſt preſented, truly ſtating the caſe, at the peril of the parties preferring the ſame: and that ſuch petition ſhall be ſigned by the parties who are ſuitors for ſuch bill.

November 24, 1699.

II. Ordered, That no private bill be brought into this Houſe, but upon a petition, ſetting forth the ſuggeſtions and reaſons for the ſame. On the 15th of February, 1700, this is declared to be a ſtanding order, and is repeated on the 18th of January, 1708.

March 13, 1716.

III. Reſolved, That no bill be ordered to be brought in on any petition, for repairing or amending any highway, or for making or cleanſing any port or harbour, or for making any river navigable, or for any other work propoſed to be carried on by tolls or duties to be levied on the ſubject in particular places, till ſuch petition has been referred to a committee, and they have examined the matter thereof, and reported the ſame to the Houſe. On the 28th of February, 1734, this is made a ſtanding order.

November 12, 1705.

IV. Ordered, That all private bills, brought into this House, be printed, and that they be printed after they are presented to the House, and before the first reading. On the 12th of December, 1706, this order is renewed, and on the 5th of March, 1722, it is ordered, That no private bill be read, before printed copies thereof be delivered to the members of the House, and this is ordered to be a standing order.

November 24, 1699.

V. Ordered, That there be three days between the several readings of all private bills. On the 15th of February, 1700, this is declared to be a standing order, and is repeated on the 18th of January, 1708.

November 24, 1699.

VI. Ordered, That the chairman of the committee for any private bill do not sit thereupon, without a week's public notice thereof set up in the lobby. On the 15th of February, 1700, this is declared to be a standing order, and is repeated on the 18th of January, 1708.

January 15, 1705.

VII. Ordered, That all persons concerned in interest in private bills, in case they are able, do personally attend the committee, to give their consents, and if they are not able personally to attend, that they give certificates of their consent, to be proved, by one or more witnesses, before the committee.

March 21, 1699.

VIII. Ordered, That the chairman of the committee, upon the report of every private bill, do acquaint the House, that the allegations of the bill have been examined, and that the parties concerned have given their consents to the satisfaction of the committee, and that the same be a standing order of the House. On the 4th of November, 1699, Ordered, That the chairman do acquaint the House, whether the allegations of the bill have been examined, and the parties concerned have given their consents, to the satisfaction of the committee; and this is declared to be a standing order, on the 15th of February, 1700, and is renewed on the 18th of January, 1708.

June 13, 1751.

IX. The House agreed to a resolution reported from a committee on the 4th of June, That no bill, or clause, for the

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the particular intereſt or benefit of any perſon or perſons, county or counties, corporation or corporations, or body or bodies of people, ſhall be read a ſecond time, unleſs fees be paid for the ſame. And this is ordered to be printed, and hung up in the lobby, with the table of fees.

May 5, 1773.

X. Reſolved, That whenever any petition, preſented to the Houſe, ſhall have been referred to a committee, to examine the matter thereof, and report the ſame, as it ſhall appear to them, to the Houſe, this Houſe will not admit any petitioners to be heard, by themſelves or counſel, againſt ſuch petition, until the matter thereof ſhall have been firſt reported to the Houſe. And this is made a ſtanding order.

II.

Orders relating to Bills for incloſing, draining, or improving of Lands.

April 15, 1774.

I. RESOLVED, That before any petition is preſented to the Houſe, for incloſing, draining, or improving any lands, fens, or commons, a printed or written notice of ſuch intended application to Parliament be affixed on the church door of the pariſh or pariſhes in which ſuch lands, fens, or commons, do lie, for three Sundays, in the months of Auguſt and September, or either of them, immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch petition is to be preſented. On the 25th of April, 1774, this is made a ſtanding order.

April 15, 1774.

II. Reſolved, That in all bills for incloſing lands or commons, the names of the commiſſioners propoſed to be appointed, and the compenſations intended for the lord of the manor, and the owners of tithes, in lieu of their reſpective rights, *where any bargains or agreements have been made for ſuch compenſations*, be inſerted in the copy of the bill preſented to the Houſe, and that all copies of ſuch bills, whether printed or written, which ſhall be ſent to any of the perſons intereſted in the ſaid manor, tithes, lands, or commons, for their conſent, do contain the names of ſuch propoſed commiſ-

ſioners, and alſo ſuch intended compenſations. On the 25th of April, 1774, this is made a ſtanding order.

November 15, 1775.

III. Reſolved, That when any petition for incloſing, draining, or improving, any lands, fens, or commons, hath been preſented to this Houſe, the committee to whom the ſaid petition ſhall be referred; or in caſe the ſaid petition ſhall not be referred to a committee, then the committee to whom the bill for thoſe purpoſes ſhall be committed, do examine, in the firſt place, how far the orders contained in the two former reſolutions have been complied with; and the chairman of ſuch committee ſhall report the ſame to the Houſe, on the report of ſuch petition or bill. On the 22d of November, 1775, this is made a ſtanding order.

April 27, 1774.

IV. Reſolved, That in all bills for incloſures, there be inſerted a clauſe, compelling the commiſſioners to account for all monies by them laid out, and aſſeſſed on the parties concerned in the ſaid incloſures: and this is made a ſtanding order.

March 14, 1781.

V. Reſolved, That in all bills for incloſing lands or commons, which ſhall be preſented to this Houſe after this ſeſſion of Parliament, proviſion be made for fencing out all the public carriage roads on each ſide, from the lands adjoining; and for preventing any gate from being erected acroſs any of the ſaid roads, or trees being planted on either ſide of the ſaid public roads, nearer to each other than within the diſtance of fifty yards: and this is made a ſtanding order.

March 14, 1781.

VI. Reſolved, That in all bills for incloſing lands or commons, which ſhall be preſented to this Houſe after this ſeſſion of Parliament, proviſion be made for empowering and requiring the commiſſioners named in ſuch bills to appoint one or more ſurveyor or ſurveyors, with a ſalary, for the firſt forming, and alſo putting into good and ſufficient repair the public carriage roads, and for defraying the expence of ſuch ſalary, and of ſuch forming and repair which ſhall be incurred over and above the ſtatute duty, either by ſale of a ſufficient portion of the ſaid lands, or by a rate upon the owners and proprietors of the lands ſo incloſed, within the ſaid pariſh; and for preventing any charge or burden being laid on the inhabitants not being owners or proprietors of lands, towards the firſt forming,

making, and repairing the ſaid roads, other than the ſtatute duty, until the ſame ſhall, by the ſaid commiſſioners, or the ſaid ſurveyor or ſurveyors, be certified before the juſtices, at their quarter ſeſſion for the county in which ſuch pariſh ſhall lie, to be completely formed and made good; which certificate the ſaid commiſſioners, or the ſaid ſurveyor or ſurveyors, ſhall be obliged to deliver to the ſaid juſtices within two years after the award, or give ſufficient reaſons for farther allowance of time, not exceeding one other year, under certain penalties to be ſpecified in the ſaid bills reſpectively: and this is made a ſtanding order.



III.

Orders relating to Bills for making Turnpike Roads.

April 25, 1774.

I. RESOLVED, That before any petition is preſented to this Houſe, for making a turnpike road, or for the renewal or alteration of any act of Parliament paſſed for that purpoſe, notice of ſuch intended application to Parliament be given at the general quarter ſeſſions of the peace, which ſhall be held for every and each county or diſtrict through which ſuch road paſſes, or is intended to paſs, at the Michaelmas immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch petition is to be preſented.

April 25, 1774.

II. Reſolved, That this notice be given by affixing to the door of the ſeſſions houſe where ſuch general quarter ſeſſions are held, a printed or written paper, deſcribing the pariſhes through which the ſaid road paſſes, or is intended to paſs; and that ſuch notice be alſo printed in ſome one newſpaper of the county, or, if there is no ſuch paper printed for that county, then in the newſpaper of ſome near or adjoining county, three times at leaſt, in the months of Auguſt and September, or either of them, immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch petition is to be preſented. This, and the former reſolution, declared to be ſtanding orders.

April 25, 1774.

III. Reſolved, That when any petition is preſented to this Houſe, for making a new turnpike road, or for raiſing a further ſum for that purpoſe, there be annexed to the ſaid petition an

an eſtimate of the propoſed expence of ſuch undertaking, ſigned by the perſon or perſons making the ſame; together with an account of the money ſubſcribed for carrying the ſaid work into execution, and the names of the ſubſcribers, with the ſums reſpectively ſubſcribed by them. This is made a ſtanding order.

November 15, 1775.

IV. Reſolved, That when any petition for a turnpike road, or for renewing or altering any act of Parliament paſſed for that purpoſe, hath been preſented to the Houſe, the committee to whom the ſaid petition ſhall be referred, do examine, in the firſt place, how far the orders contained in the three former reſolutions have been complied with; and the chairman of ſuch committee ſhall report the ſame to the Houſe, on the report of the petition. On the 22d of November, 1775, this is made a ſtanding order.

March 13, 1716.

V. Reſolved, That no bill be ordered to be brought in, on any petition for repairing or amending any highway, till ſuch petition has been referred to a committee, and they have examined the matter thereof, and reported the ſame to the Houſe. On the 28th of February, 1734, this is declared to be a ſtanding order.

March 12, 1752.

VI. Reſolved, That in all future bills for acts of Parliament, for the erecting or continuing any turnpike, a clauſe be inſerted to oblige the commiſſioners of ſuch turnpike to take ſecurity from their treaſurer or receiver for the faithful execution of the ſaid office. This is made a ſtanding order.

March 12, 1752.

VII. Reſolved, That in all ſuch bills a clauſe be inſerted, to prevent any perſon who ſhall be nominated a commiſſioner, from acting or voting in the buſineſs of the ſaid turnpike, unleſs he ſhall be poſſeſſed of an eſtate in land, or a perſonal eſtate, to ſuch certain value as ſhall be ſpecified in ſuch bills. This is made a ſtanding order. And on the 14th of March, 1753, this is extended to the heirs apparent of perſons poſſeſſed of an eſtate in land to a certain value to be ſpecified: and is made a ſtanding order.

April 25, 1774.

VIII. Reſolved, That in all bills for making a new turnpike road there be inſerted a clauſe, compelling the ſubſcribers for carrying ſuch work into execution, to make payment of the

the ſums ſeverally ſubſcribed by them. This is made a ſtanding order.



IV.

Orders relating to Navigable Canals, Aqueducts, and the Navigation of Rivers.

May 7, 1794.

I. RESOLVED, That when any application is intended to be made to the Houſe, for leave to bring in a bill for making any cut, or canal, for the purpoſes of navigation, or any cut, canal, or aqueduct, for the purpoſe of ſupplying any city, town, or place, with water, or for varying or altering any ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct already made; or for making or improving the navigation of any river; or for altering any act of Parliament paſſed for any or either of thoſe purpoſes, (in which bill for altering any ſuch act it is intended to give power for raiſing any further or additional rates, tolls, or duties, or for varying the line of ſuch canal) notice of ſuch intended application ſhall be inſerted three times in the London Gazette, in the months of Auguſt and September, or either of them, immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch application is intended to be made: and that ſuch notice ſhall alſo be inſerted in ſome one newſpaper of every county through which any ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried, or in which ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct, already made, is intended to be varied or altered, or in which ſuch river, or ſuch part thereof as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be improved, is ſituated, (or if there is not any newſpaper printed in or for ſuch counties reſpectively, then in the newſpaper of ſome county near or adjoining thereto) three times at the leaſt, in the months of Auguſt and September, or either of them, immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch application is intended to be made: and that ſuch notice ſhall alſo be given at the general quarter ſeſſion of the peace which ſhall be holden for every and each county, riding, or diviſion, through which any ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried; or in which ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct already made, is intended to be varied or altered; or in which ſuch river, or ſuch part thereof as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be im-

improved, is ſituated, at the Michaelmas preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch application is intended to be made, by affixing ſuch notice to the door of the ſeſſion houſes reſpectively, where ſuch general quarter ſeſſion ſhall be holden.

May 7, 1794.

II. Reſolved, That ſuch ſeveral notices ſhall contain the names of the pariſhes and townſhips in, to, or through which any ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct, is intended to be carried, varied, or altered; or in which ſuch river, or ſuch part thereof as is intended to be made navigable, or the navigation thereof to be improved, is ſituated.

May 7, 1794.

III. Reſolved, That a map or plan of ſuch intended cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, and alſo of any intended alteration in any cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, already made, ſhall be depoſited, for public inſpection, at the office of the clerk of the peace of every county, riding, or diviſion, through which ſuch cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, is intended to be carried, or ſuch alteration is intended to be made, on or before the 30th day of September previous to the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch application is intended to be made; which map, or plan, ſhall deſcribe the line of ſuch intended cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, or of ſuch intended alteration, and the lands through which the ſame is intended to be carried, together with a book of reference, containing a liſt of the names of the owners, or reputed owners, and occupiers, of ſuch lands reſpectively.

May 7, 1794.

IV. Reſolved, That, before any application is made to the Houſe for any or either of the purpoſes aforeſaid, a previous application ſhall be made to the owners, or reputed owners, and occupiers of the lands through which any ſuch cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, is intended to be carried, or any ſuch alteration is intended to be made; and that ſeparate liſts ſhall be made of the names of ſuch owners and occupiers, diſtinguiſhing which of them, upon ſuch application, have aſſented to, or diſſented from, ſuch intended cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, or ſuch alteration, or are neuter in reſpect thereto.

May 7, 1794.

V. Reſolved, That whenever any petition is preſented to the Houſe for any or either of the purpoſes aforeſaid, there ſhall be preſented, with ſuch petition, the liſts mentioned in the

the laſt preceding reſolution, and alſo a duplicate of the map, or plan, ſo to be depoſited at the office of the clerk of the peace as aforeſaid.

May 7, 1794.

VI. Reſolved, That whenever any petition is preſented to the Houſe for making, varying, or altering, any ſuch cut, canal, or aqueduct, as aforeſaid, or making or improving the navigation of a river, there be annexed to the ſaid petition an eſtimate of the propoſed expence of ſuch undertaking, (in caſes where proviſion is intended to be made for raiſing money to defray ſuch expence,) ſuch eſtimate to be ſigned by the perſon or perſons making the ſame; and, if ſuch money is propoſed to be raiſed by ſubſcription, that there be alſo annexed to the ſaid petition, an account of the money ſubſcribed for that purpoſe, and the names of the ſubſcribers, with the ſums by them ſubſcribed reſpectively.

May 7, 1794.

VII. Reſolved, That whenever any petition has been preſented to the Houſe for the purpoſes aforeſaid, or any or either of them, the committee, to whom ſuch petition ſhall be referred, do examine, in the firſt place, how far the orders contained in the preceding reſolutions have been complied with; and do report the ſame, at the time when they report the matter of any ſuch petition, as it ſhall appear to them, to the Houſe.

May 7, 1794.

VIII. Reſolved, That there be ſeven days between the firſt and ſecond reading of ſuch bills.

May 7, 1794.

IX. Reſolved, That all perſons, owners, or reputed owners, and occupiers, of the land through which any ſuch cut, canal, aqueduct, or navigation, is intended to be carried, or any ſuch alteration is intended to be made, do perſonally attend the committee to whom ſuch bill ſhall be committed; or if they do not perſonally attend, do give their certificate in writing, ſignifying that they have ſeen a printed copy of the ſaid bill, and do give their conſent to, or diſſent thereto, or declare themſelves neuter in reſpect thereof; and that the hand writing of ſuch owner or occupier to ſuch certificate be proved by one or more witneſſes before the ſaid committee; and that the ſaid committee ſhall report to the Houſe, together with the report of the ſaid bill, a liſt of the names of ſuch perſons who ſhall appear to them to have given ſuch aſſent, or diſſent, or to have been neuter, in reſpect to the ſaid bill.

May 7, 1794.

X. Resolved, That there be seven days between the day on which such bill is reported to the House, and the day when the said report shall be taken into consideration.

May 7, 1794.

XI. Resolved, That, after such bill is reported to the House, the bill, as amended by the committee, be printed, at the expence of the parties applying for the same, and be delivered at the door to the members of the House, three days, at least, before such report shall be taken into consideration.

May 7, 1794.

XII. Resolved, That the clerks of the peace, or their respective deputies, do make a memorial, in writing, upon the plan and book of reference deposited with them in manner aforesaid, denoting the time at which the same was lodged in their respective offices; and do, at all seasonable hours of the day, permit any person to view and examine the same, and to make copies or extracts therefrom, such person paying for the same the usual and accustomed fees paid to such clerks of the peace, for the inspection, and copying of, or making extracts from, records in their respective offices.

May 7, 1794.

XIII. Resolved, That, in all bills presented to the House for any or either of the purposes aforesaid, provision be made for compelling the persons who have subscribed towards carrying any such work into execution, to make payment of the sums severally subscribed by them, and also to oblige the commissioners or trustees to take security from their treasurer, receiver, or collector, for the faithful execution of his office.

And these resolutions are made standing orders.

V.

Orders relating to Bills for building Bridges.

May 23, 1786.

RESOLVED, That before any petition is presented to this House, for erecting a bridge, or for the renewal or alteration of any act of Parliament passed for that purpose, notice of

of ſuch intended application to Parliament be given at the general quarter ſeſſions of the peace, which ſhall be held for every and each county, or diſtrict, to which ſuch bridge extends, or is intended to extend, at the Michaelmas immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch petition is to be preſented. This is made a ſtanding order.

May 23, 1786.

II. Reſolved, That this notice be given, by affixing to the door of the ſeſſions houſe where ſuch general quarter ſeſſions are held, a printed or written paper, deſcribing the pariſhes to which the ſaid bridge extends, or is intended to extend, and that ſuch notice be alſo printed in ſome one newſpaper of the county, or, if there is no ſuch paper printed for that county, then in the newſpaper of ſome near or adjoining county, three times at leaſt, in the months of Auguſt and September, or either of them, immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch petition is to be preſented. This is made a ſtanding order.

May 23, 1786.

III. Reſolved, That when any petition for a bridge, or for renewing, or altering, any act of Parliament paſſed for that purpoſe, ſhall be preſented to the Houſe, the committee to whom the ſaid petition ſhall be referred do examine, in the firſt place, how far the orders contained in the two former reſolutions have been complied with, and the chairman of ſuch committee ſhall report the evidence upon ſuch examination to the Houſe, on the report of the petition. This is made a ſtanding order.



VI.

Orders relating to Bills for the more eaſy Recovery of ſmall Debts.

February 2, 1787.

I. RESOLVED, That in all bills for conſtituting courts for the recovery of ſmall debts, proviſion be made, that no perſon ſhall be committed to priſon by ſuch courts, for more than twenty days, where the debt does not exceed twenty ſhillings, nor for more than forty days, where the debt does not exceed forty ſhillings, and that every perſon ſo committed ſhall be diſcharged at the expiration of the ſaid twenty

days,

days, or forty days, respectively, without paying any fees to any gaoler or turnkey. This is made a standing order.

February 2, 1787.

II. Resolved, That, in all bills for constituting courts for the recovery of small debts, there be inserted a clause, that no person shall be capable of acting as a commissioner, unless such person shall be a householder within the county, district, city, liberty, or place, for which he shall act, and shall be possessed of a real estate, of the annual value of twenty pounds, or of a personal estate of the value of five hundred pounds. This is made a standing order.

February 2, 1787.

III. Resolved, That the committee to whom any bill for constituting courts for the recovery of small debts shall be committed, do examine, in the first place, how far the orders contained in the two preceding resolutions have been complied with; and the chairman of such committee shall report the same to the House, on the report of such bill. This is made a standing order.



VII.

Orders relating to Bills for Paving, &c. Cities or Towns.

May 20, 1791.

I. RESOLVED, That before any petition is presented to this House, for paving, lighting, cleansing, or improving, any city or town, or for the renewal, or alteration, of any act of Parliament passed for that purpose, notice of such intended application to Parliament be given at the general quarter sessions of the peace, which shall be held for the county in which such city or town shall be situate, at the Michaelmas immediately preceding the session of Parliament in which such petition is to be presented. This is made a standing order.

May 20, 1791.

II. Resolved, That this notice be given, by affixing to the door of the sessions house where such general quarter sessions are held, a printed or written paper, declaring that such application will be made; and that such notice be also printed in

some

ſome one newſpaper of the county, or, if there is no ſuch paper printed for that county, then in the newſpaper of ſome near or adjoining county, three times, at leaſt, in the months of Auguſt and September, or either of them, immediately preceding the ſeſſion of Parliament in which ſuch petition is to be preſented. This is made a ſtanding order.

VIII.

Order relating to Bills reſpecting Trade.

April 9, 1772.

RESOLVED, That no bill relating to trade, or the alteration of the laws concerning trade, be brought into the Houſe, until the propoſition ſhall have been firſt conſidered in a committee of the whole Houſe, and agreed unto by the Houſe: and this is made a ſtanding order.

IX.

Order relating to Bills reſpecting Religion.

April 30, 1772.

RESOLVED, That no bill relating to religion, or the alteration of the laws concerning religion, be brought into this Houſe, until the propoſition ſhall have been firſt conſidered in a committee of the whole Houſe, and agreed unto by the Houſe: and this is made a ſtanding order.

X.

Orders relating to other private Bills, not within the foregoing Deſcriptions.

May 13, 1690.

I. ORDERED, That when any bill ſhall be brought into this Houſe for confirming of letters patent, there be a true

a true copy of ſuch letters patent annexed to the bill: and that this be declared to be a ſtanding order.

December 11, 1706.

II. Reſolved, That this Houſe will receive no petition for any ſum of money, relating to public ſervice, but what is recommended from the crown. On the 11th of June, 1713, this is declared to be a ſtanding order.

March 29, 1707.

III. Reſolved, That this Houſe will not proceed upon any petition, motion, or bill, for granting any money, or for releaſing or compounding any ſum of money owing to the crown, but in a committee of the whole Houſe. This is made a ſtanding order.

April 23, 1713.

IV. Reſolved, That this Houſe will not receive any petition for compounding any ſum of money owing to the crown, upon any branch of the revenue, without a certificate from the proper officer or officers annexed to the ſaid petition, ſtating the debt, what proſecutions have been made for the recovery of ſuch debt, and ſetting forth how much the petitioner and his ſecurity are able to ſatisfy thereof. On the 25th of March, 1715, this is declared to be a ſtanding order.

June 10, 1773.

V. Reſolved, That before any bill of divorce for adultery do paſs this Houſe, evidence be given before the committee, to whom the ſaid bill ſhall be committed, that an action for damages has been brought in one of his Majeſty's courts of Weſtminſter Hall, againſt the perſon ſuppoſed to be guilty of adultery, and judgment had thereupon; or ſufficient cauſe be ſhewn to the ſaid committee why ſuch action was not brought or ſuch judgment was not obtained. This is made a ſtanding order.



INDEX

TO THE

ORDERS OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

A.

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B.

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Y

THE END.

ERRATA in Vol. I.

Page 81. for Feb. 27, 1662, read 1663.
127. for Jan. 18, 1666, read 1667.
130. for Feb. 8, 1666, read 1667.
155. for April 22, 1761-2, read 1671-2.
165. for Feb. 44, read 24.
226. for Oct. 20, 1678, read Oct. 26.
306. for Oct. 19, 1699, read 1689.
308. for *Nov.* 11, read *December.*
378. line 1, for *Addreſs*, read Anſwer.
437. for *Oct.* 22, 1696, read Nov. 30, 1710.
476. Her Majeſty's Anſwer in this page, June 27, 1713, ſhould precede the Meſſage.
481. for 1713, read 1714.
466. for Nov. 10, read Nov. 20.

ERRATA in Vol. II.

Page 31. for *Her*, read *His*, line 12.
237. for June 9, 1772, read Oct. 26, 1775.
305. for Nov. 26, 1772, read 1779.
376. for Oct. 22, read Dec. 22.